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RUSSELL ERRETT, Editor.

☞ Letters on Business, Subscriptions, &c., address COMMERCIAL, Pittsburgh, Pa.

VOL. X.—NO. 15.

The Pittsburgh Commercial.

WEEKLY EDITION.

FEBRUARY 15, 1873.

The DAILY COMMERCIAL, published by the Commercial Printing Company, corner Fifth avenue and Smithfield street, opposite Postoffice.

RUSSELL ERRETT, Editor.

M. F. EGAN, Business Manager.

☞ TERMS OF THE DAILY: Single copy, 3 cents; delivered by carriers (per week), 25 cents; subscribers by mail (per year), $10 00.

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1873.

The Pittsburgh COMMERCIAL

Daily and Weekly.

LEADING PENNSYLVANIA PAPER.

A paper so widely known as the COMMERCIAL can safely refer to its course in the past as a guaranty for the future. But it will not be content to pursue the beaten path. The reelection of General Grant insures for the country a lengthened period of prosperity and progress. The press is destined to play a still more important part as the educator of the people and leader of public opinion. In the future, as in the past, the COMMERCIAL will not be content to lag in the rear, but will be fully up to the times in whatever relates to the general welfare.

AS A PAPER OF GENERAL INTELLIGENCE AND MEDIUM OF THE LATEST NEWS, the COMMERCIAL is widely known and appreciated. We expend annually many thousands of dollars to supply the wants of the public.

As a PAPER OF PROGRESS, it will hereafter continue to maintain its character in this respect.

As a PAPER OF OPINION, the COMMERCIAL will continue to discuss men and measures with perfect freedom, and with an eye single to the public good, believing that the principles of the Republican party will thereby be best subserved.

As an INDEPENDENT REPUBLICAN PAPER, the COMMERCIAL will criticise its own party for its own good, believing that in free discussion and the independent expression of opinion only can our institutions be preserved.

As a BUSINESS PAPER, the COMMERCIAL will hereafter, as heretofore, employ every agency it can command to meet the wants of the public. Now that the period of party excitement has been passed, it will pay special attention to topics interesting in the counting room, the bank and marts of trade, giving special attendence to Science, Art, Invention, Agriculture and Manufactures.

As a PAPER FOR THE FAMILY it will give reading calculated to instruct, improve the reading taste and improve the mind.

As a MARKET PAPER its reports will always possess a special excellence, so that the buyer and seller can at all times consult its columns for every necessary information as to prices and the spirit of the different branches of trade. Everything that is bought and sold in the Pittsburgh market and the leading markets of the country will receive careful attention, and at a large cost.

The country is about entering on a period of unexampled prosperity. The field of journalism is constantly expanding. It will be the aim of the COMMERCIAL to hold a position in it along with the leading journals of the country.

TERMS OF THE DAILY COMMERCIAL.

To Mail Subscribers $10 00 a year, beginning any day; and at the same rate per month for any part of the year.

Terms of the Weekly Commercial.

One Copy	$2 00
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Twenty Copies, each	1 40
Fifty Copies, each	1 25

To every person sending us a club of twenty-five subscribers at $2 00 each, we will present a Silver Hunting Case Watch, warranted.

Our beautiful Chromo will be given to each subscriber remitting us $2 00.

Additions to Clubs may be made at any time in the year, at the above Club rates.

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PITTSBURGH, PA.

DAMAGE BY FLOOD.

Gorge in the Susquehanna.

Canal Flooded at Columbia, Pa.—Railroad Tracks Overflowed—Rapid Rise at Port Deposit, Md.—The Town Parily Submerged.

COLUMBIA, Pa., February 9.—At nine this evening the back water occasioned by an ice gorge at Chickies is filling the Pennsylvania canal and flooding its banks. About eight inches of water now covers the tracks of the Pennsylvania Railroad in the vicinity of the tunnel just west of this place. The canal basin is filling up and coal stored on the banks is being washed away. Families are leaving the shores and a disastrous flood is expected. Railroad travel via Columbia may be intercepted unless the ice breaks away and allows the water to subside. The Columbia Railroad and travel bridge is in imminent danger. If the ice holds at Columbia it cannot be loose below, hence there is probably no change at Port Deposit.

PORT DEPOSIT, MD., February 9.—This afternoon the water began to rise and pour into the town at Rock Run, and the streets were soon flooded, as was also the town above. The scene of parties moving household effects from the threatened point was repeated, and with much more excitement than heretofore. The water at four o'clock was higher than at any time since the freshet began, and the alarm of the inhabitants increased momentarily as the waters gathered around them. The Presbyterian church was surrounded, and the Methodist church Sunday school compelled to suspend services, the people with great difficulty reaching their homes. The minister was unable to reach his residence except by boat, and persons caught in the lower part of the town had either to come up by boat or take the hill path. The Friendship Hotel, near the centre of the town, is completely surrounded by water. As yet no movement of the ice is noted or reported from above. At six o'clock the water was still rising, and the excitement increases momentarily. The various avenues from the river front to the main street, and all the cellars and first stories of houses along the river bank, are flooded. At seven o'clock the water gives evidence of slowly subsiding.

At midnight there is no material change in the situation. The water continues to slowly recede.

Three Deaths from Heart Disease in Chillicothe, Ohio.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

CHILLICOTHE, O., February 10, 1873.

Three deaths, all ladies, occurred in this city, yesterday, from heart disease, the attacks varying from fifteen to thirty minutes duration. The parties had been in their usual health up to the time of attack. Two of the ladies were married.

Found Drowned in the Youghiogheny.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WEST NEWTON, PA., February 9, 1873.

John Swonger, a citizen of this place, was found drowned in the river about two miles below to-day. When found the body was in the water, with one leg in his skiff and the arms clutching an oar.

HARRISBURG.

PENNSYLVANIA LEGISLATURE

Special to the Pittsburg Press.

HARRISBURG, PA., February 6, 1873.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The Committee on Ways and Means reported back the bill giving $900,000 to the Centennial Commissioners. Mr. Ballantine in the chair. The first section was voted down, carrying the whole bill with it.

Mr. Latta moved to reconsider. Agreed to. Five thousand extra copies of the bill were ordered.

Senate No. 87, act authorizing the banks to hold mortgages as securities for notes, was passed, with the proviso making it retroactive stricken out.

Act relative to vacancies in Prothonotary's, Register's and Clerk of Court's offices. Passed.

The act in reference to informations for violations of the Sunday law provoked discussion and was then voted down.

The committee have agreed on the contest in the Seventh Judicial District, Bucks and Montgomery, Miller, Republican, vs. Roberts, Democrat, in favor of Roberts.

SENATE.

The following bills were read:

Mr. Playford—To incorporate the People's Bank of Carmichaels, Greene county.

Mr. Humphreys—To incorporate the Pittsburgh and South Side Railway Company, to run from the Twenty-seventh ward to Baldwin township, to use horses or steam. Corporators—Charles Jeremy, General Pearson, Will. Coates and others.

Mr. McClure—Supplement to General Railroad law, to prevent crossing at grade.

Mr. Rutan endeavored to have the Bank Committee discharged from the consideration of the act to incorporate Karns City Safe Deposit and Insurance Company of Butler county.

Mr. Graham opposed the motion on account of extraordinary privileges granted in the bill, saying that they were almost as great as that of the Credit Mobilier. The motion was withdrawn.

Mr. Graham read an act to authorize the State Superintendent of Common Schools to appropriate money for public libraries under the management of School Directors.

HARRISBURG, February 6, 1873.

Pennsylvania Railroad Bill Passed.

The bill authorizing the Pennsylvania Railroad Company to increase its capital stock to an unlimited extent has been passed by both Houses of the Legislature by a unanimous vote.

Special to the Pittsburgh Press.

HARRISBURG, February 7, 1873.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

On the public calendar, taken up yesterday, there were several bills whose provisions apply to Allegheny county in many interesting ways.

No. 100, "An Act relative to the serving of writs of summons on foreign corporations" provides that the service upon the person or agent who acted for the corporation in the matter in dispute shall be valid and good in law, when they have no regularly established office or agent in the county. Passed.

Senate No. 87—Batchelor's bank bill. Amended and passed.

House bill No. 164, "An act relative to vacancies in certain offices," so as to allow the appointment of a principal deputy, on whom shall fall the duties of the office until his successor is duly qualified. It makes it obligatory on the Prothonotary, Register and Clerk of Courts to name at once the principal deputy, who, before taken upon himself the duties of his office, shall give a bond similar to that of his principal.

No. 165. "An act granting the privilege to any auctioneer to travel through the State and sell works of art," was negatived, and it will now take a long time to get it up again.

No. 167. "An act to allow assignees of insurance policies to sue in their own name," was passed.

No. 168. "An act authorizing mining and manufacturing companies to issue mortgages and use the same as collateral," provoked considerable discussion.

Mr. Orvis wanted to know why the gentleman from Allegheny (Mr. McCormick), could not amend Senate bill No. 87, just passed, and not consume the time of laws with two bills almost entirely similar.

Mr. McCormick explained that as they were different subjects he had thought it better to have two bills, to prevent a confusion in the title.

Mr. Orvis called the yeas and nays, when the bill passed by a vote of 55 to 24.

No. 179. "An act to regulate the mode of making complaints before Justices of the Peace in certain cases." The bill requires that in all informations for violations of the Sunday law the person making the information shall take an oath that the complaint is made from conscientious motives, and not from any malice or meanness of spirite or revenge, or other improper or unchristian promptings against the party complained of, or from any ill will against any other person or persons or body corporate whatever.

Mr. Orvis moved to amend by making it read, not only for violations of the Sunday law but for all *"crimes and misdemeanors."* He said, "I only do this to show the monstrosity of this bill. Here you propose to punish the man who makes the information, rather than he who violates the law."

The Speaker put the first section before the House and the bill went down unanimously.

The committee on constitutional amendments from Montgomery county have agreed to report in favor of Roberts, Democrat. It will be recollected that Miller, Republican, ran against Roberts in the Bucks and Montgomery district last fall. Roberts was elected, but for some mysterious reason resigned after he held his first court in January. Governor Geary appointed Judge Watson, Republican, of Doylestown, to the vacant bench until the next election. Miller, knowing if he could secure the contested seat the action of Roberts, and thus deny his right to make the vacancy which has been filled by Watson, he would be entitled to his commission for the full term, filed his petition. The decision of the committee to-day is in favor of Watson, appointed by the Governor, declaring that the petitioner had no grounds for a contest.

Important Judiciary Committee.

Nearly all the House committees were in session in the afternoon. A number of bills were reported from the Local Judiciary, among them:

An act to reduce the expenses of collecting State and county taxes in Allegheny county.

An act extending the provisions of the Allegheny county livery stable act to Butler county.

An act to provide for the redemption of certain bonds in the county of Venango.

An act extending the statute of limitations for collecting fees of the Sheriff of Armstrong county. Passed by committee.

An act to change the disposition of fines for violations of the license laws in Armstrong county.

Supplement to an act for the improvement of creeks in Cambria county.

An act regulating the election in Homer City, Indiana county.

An act relative to mechanics' liens in the county of Butler.

Supplement to an act incorporating the borough of New Wilmington, in Lawrence county.

An act extending all the provisions of the mechanics' lien law to Forest county.

An act in relation to the collection of State mercantile licenses by the City Treasurer of Allegheny.

An act to provide for the election of a Police Justice in Hickory township, Mercer county.

An Invitation.

The House and Senate are invited to visit the Pennsylvania University of Philadelphia on Saturday; also the Lincoln University in Chester county. Many will attend.

More Bills Reported.

The following reports from committees were made to-day:

Joint resolution to pay the expenses of inauguration, three thousand dollars.

Supplement to act incorporating the Dollar Savings Bank of Pittsburgh.

The act conferring banking privileges on the Sharon Savings Bank was negatived.

Supplement to the Savings Bank of Franklin, with amendments.

An act to incorporate the People's Savings Bank of Fayette county, with amendments.

An act incorporating the Waynesboro Bank, with amendments.

An act conferring banking privileges on Woods Run Savings Fund.

An act to incorporate the United States Savings Bank.

The Union Bridge Company bill was reported favorably.

New Bills.

Mr. Ramsey read a supplement for the Safe Deposit of Wheatland.

Mr. Henry, of Cambria, act defining the location of the boundary lines of Millville, in Cambria county.

Mr. Greenawalt, of Westmoreland, supplement to the charter of Latrobe; also, act relating to the Law Library of Westmoreland county.

Mr. Smith, of Fayette, act incorporating the Brownsville Construction Company.

SENATE.

A petition was read asking the repeal of all laws exempting church and other property from taxation.

Mr. Wallace read a bill relating to actions of ejectment.

The act to provide for the obtaining of evidence where the defense is insanity, and act to incorporate the Trustees of the Christian Missionary, were passed.

The act repealing laws exempting property from taxation was ordered to be printed.

The Screen bill for Allegheny and the west was reported favorably.

Special Dispatch to Pittsburgh Press.

HARRISBURG, PA., February 10, 1873.

SENATE.

The Senate met this evening at eight o'clock. In the absence of the Speaker, Senator Strong called the Senate to order.

The Governor, by message, officially announced the death of ex-Governor Geary, and recommended that the Legislature take charge of the funeral.

Senator Graham offered resolutions lamenting the sudden death and eulogizing the deceased; that the Legislature cease active legislation until next Monday evening, and that they attend the funeral in a body.

The Senate was addressed in a feeling manner by Senators Graham, Wallace, Weakly, Humphreys, and Davis of Philadelphia.

The Governor, the Speakers, and five members of each House, together with Col. Jordan, are to act as a committee to carry out the funeral arrangements.

The Senate will meet to-morrow morning and adjourn. The House is not in session.

Special Correspondence of the Pittsburgh Commercial.

HARRISBURG, February 6, 1873.

The important bill relative to the Pennsylvania Road, which passed the House yesterday unanimously, permitting the stockholders to increase the capital stock of the road, came over to the Senate this morning, and was shortly after reported affirmatively by the Railroad Committee. It was called up as soon as calls were in order and passed without objection.

The bill to enable the Union Passenger Railway of Philadelphia to lay tracks on Market street from North to Front streets, also came over from the House, was reported favorably from committee, and was called up and passed to third reading, its final passage being deferred until to-morrow. An effort was made to prolong the session beyond one o'clock to enable the friends of the bill to put it through, but it did not succeed.

Both these bills were well understood, and there was therefore little need for further postponing their consideration, but there were evidently quite a number of Senators who would have preferred a little less haste. One Senator, indeed, ventured to say that he thought a bill ought to remain at least one day in the hands of a committee, even if its friends had the power to force its passage earlier; but either he was frightened at his own temerity in so speaking, or at the failure to find a backer in his boldness, for he did not press his views beyond this mild protest.

The bill regarding the Pennsylvania Railroad is an important one mainly to its stockholders. The company propose to lay four tracks between Philadelphia and Pittsburgh, devoting two to freight and two to passenger trains exclusively, and to raise the money from the sale of the increased stock. I am not aware of the plan for carrying out this purpose, but presume the present stockholders will be allowed to subscribe for the new stock, *pro rata*, and to pay for it at par. The stockholders have a meeting next week at Philadelphia, and will then determine how much additional stock shall be issued, and under what regulations.

The policy of a four-track road has long been a favorite idea with Mr. Thomson, the President of the road. His theory is that the passenger traffic should not be carried on in connection with freight, on the same tracks, but on totally distinct tracks. Two of the tracks being given up exclusively to passenger trains, no delays or obstructions from freight trains can arise, the tracks will be safer, trains can be run oftener and with more certainty, and more attention can be given to the accommodation of passengers. On the other hand, two tracks being given up to freight, one track can always be occupied by trains moving east, and two trains can move west, without shifting or side-tracking, and the freight traffic, having greater scope, can be greatly enlarged.

One of the conceptions of Mr. Thomson on this subject, embodied in one of his annual reports, some years ago, read at the time almost like the record of a dream. Yet here we are on the eve of realizing it. It was to run a four track road from Philadelphia to Chicago and St. Louis, on which freight trains could be dispatched from both ends, by day and night, at the rate of ten miles an hour, without change of engine, conductor or brakemen. The low rate of speed would, he thought, enable the engine and cars to go through without change, and a caboose car could be attached, fitted up with conveniences for cooking, eating and sleeping, to accommodate two sets of men to work the train, one on duty and the other off, relieving each other at regular intervals, as on board ship or on steamboats. Under such a plan, he thought, freight could be carried much more cheaply and certainly than now, and as a part of this plan, originally, to use the Philadelphia and Erie road, and the extension of the Allegheny Valley road from the mouth of Mahoning as a part of this line, on account of the low grades thereby afforded and the consequent ability to carry larger trains at low expense, and to run this line westward from the Mahoning over the table lands or "backbone" region of Ohio. Whether that part of the scheme has been abandoned it cannot say; but the effort to build a four track road from Philadelphia to Pittsburgh is evidently a part of the original project, and is, I think, a step in the right direction. Certainly all travelers by rail will be glad when the freight and passenger traffic of the railroads is carried on upon separate tracks.

Call Bill.—Senate Two Willes to enable banks to take and companies or individuals to give mortgages to secure loans, went through the House to-day. The bill, as it was when finally passed the Senate, was amended in the House by striking out the proviso validating all mortgages previously given, the lawyers of that body fancying it was intended to cover some suits now pending, and the Senate concurred, so that the bill goes to the Governor. The other bill, which enables manufacturing companies to issue bonds and mortgages, as securities for loans from banks, gave rise to some discussion, but finally passed, 54 to 27. It has yet to pass the Senate. The bill is for the benefit of the National banks, which can take the bonds as collateral instead of mortgages.

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Mr. Rutan endeavored, in the Senate, this morning, to discharge the Committee on Banks from the further consideration of a bill to charter a Safe Deposit and Insurance Company, in Karns City, Butler county, but withdrew his motion after the character of the bill had been stated by Mr. Delamater and Mr. Graham. The latter characterized it as a "Credit Mobilier" concern, chartering a company to do anything and everything, and this seemed to settle its fate. The committee agreed to disagree of the bill, next week, and the attempt to discharge the committee was given up. Mr. Delamater stated, very pertinently, that there was evident, in all the bank bills so far introduced, a purpose to obtain, if possible, unusual grants of power, and likewise to secure a relief from the responsibilities and obligations imposed upon similar institutions heretofore. This explains the cause of the delay that has occurred, the scrutiny which these bills require necessarily consuming much time and labor. SPECIAL.

THE OIL REGIONS.

Large Strike Near Titusville.

OLD TERRITORY REVIVING.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

TITUSVILLE, PA., February 7, 1873.

Another large strike has to-day been made a mile and a half south of this city, on property situated near the old Col. Drake well, the first one struck in the oil regions. It is known as the Hunter No. 2, and although only three feet in the sand, is flowing at the rate of one hundred and fifty barrels a day. Another well, on an adjoining lease, known as the Greenbeck well, was drilled to the third sand rock to-day, and gives an equally good showing. There are now four wells in this locality, each doing over one hundred barrels per day. The territory lies between and on a line with the Church Run and Octave Company developments, and during the early history of the region was all drilled and exhausted. This is the best testimony yet adduced in favor of the theory that old territory will revive after the lapse of time.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WEST ALEXANDER, PA., February 10, 1873.

Sheep and Cattle Thieves — Dwelling Burned.

A few nights ago Mr. Griffith, living seven miles from here, had seventy-five fine sheep stolen. There is no clue to the thieves. On Saturday morning Wm. Bushfield had a yoke of good oxen stolen. The thief was arrested and lodged in jail at Steubenville, Ohio. On Sunday evening a dwelling house near this place, owned by Thos. Frazier, was destroyed by fire. Loss about twenty-five hundred dollars; no insurance.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

CHILLICOTHE, OHIO, February 7, 1873.

Spotted Fever at New Holland, Ohio.

Spinal meningitis, or spotted fever, is prevailing to a considerable extent in the vicinity of New Holland, Pickaway county.

WASHINGTON.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., February 7, 1873.

The Freedmen's Bureau Irregularities.

Gen. O. O. Howard has addressed Representative Colburn, Chairman of the Military Committee, a long letter in defense and explanation of his conduct of affairs while Commissioner of the Freedmen's Bureau, and in reply to criticisms in the recent report of Adjutant General Vincent, to whom the Bureau was turned over under orders from the War Department. Noticing first General Vincent's complaint of the loss and confusion of the records of the Bureau, General Howard replies that while in personal charge he always kept affairs in first rate order, enabling him to make out reports and furnish information in the shortest possible time, but that at the time of the transfer he had been three months absent in Arizona. The appropriation for the Bureau had not been received by Congress and there was in consequence a great and unavoidable accumulation of business. Confusion was also produced in the transfer itself, his few clerks, irritated and dispirited as if in disgrace by being turned out of government employment, while important papers were picked up along the streets between the Bureau and War Department, and valuable books and documents were strewn around the stairs and grounds. In short, Gen. Howard says there seemed to be a concerted plan to treat his office with contempt. Further trouble was caused by the disappearance of records in transit from local and State agencies, but to stone has been left unturned for an accurate account of the affairs of the Bureau. Gen. Howard then reviews at length the operations of the Bureau through the various divisions, claiming that over eight millions of dollars in bounties has been disbursed with an error in the accounts of only three hundred dollars. Gen. Howard closes his letter in this boldness, for he did not press his views beyond this mild protest.

The bill regarding the Pennsylvania Railroad is an important one mainly to its stockholders. The company propose to lay four tracks between Philadelphia and Pittsburgh, devoting two to freight and two to passenger trains exclusively, and to raise the money from the sale of the increased stock. I am not aware of the plan for carrying out this purpose, but presume the present stockholders will be allowed to subscribe for the new stock, *pro rata*, and to pay for it at par. The stockholders have a meeting next week at Philadelphia, and will then determine how much additional stock shall be issued, and under what regulations.

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Most of the time of the Senate to-day was spent in discussing a resolution to adjourn over from to-day to Tuesday next, so as to enable the Legislature to accept the invitation to visit Lincoln University and the Pennsylvania University on Saturday. Both of these institutions want large appropriations, and both had prepared collations of cold victuals for the occasion. But the Senate was not in the humor. A motion to strike out Tuesday and insert Monday was lost, as was also a motion to hold a session Saturday afternoon and then adjourn over to Tuesday, and finally the original motion was defeated, 11 to 22. The Senate, plainly, is not in the humor of being feasted as a preliminary to being bled.

The Centennial Commission came up in great force yesterday, and laid siege to the House again to-day. The Ways and Means Committee reported back the original bill with the appropriation cut down from $1,000,000 to $500,000. The House went into Committee of the Whole, and on this question the vote was—yeas 26, nays 55. This was an end of the bill, and the opponents of this extravagance should have stuck there and maintained their advantage; but Mr. Latta, of Westmoreland, yielded to the appeal of the Centennials, and moved a reconsideration, which was carried, and the committee then rose, reported progress and asked leave to sit again, which was granted, and next Thursday was fixed as the time. It is a pity this weakness was shown. The bill was dead, with the defeat of the first section; and what was the use of bringing it to life again? Perhaps, however, by next week, the Centennials may be willing to take $250,000, and after a second defeat, to come down to $100,000. I say perhaps; but "perhaps" is always doubtful, while a killed bill is as free from doubt as a mathematical demonstration.

Mr. Rutan endeavored, in the Senate, this morning, to discharge the Committee on Banks from the further consideration of a bill to charter a Safe Deposit and Insurance Company, in Karns City, Butler county, but withdrew his motion after the character of the bill had been stated by Mr. Delamater and Mr. Graham. The latter characterized it as a "Credit Mobilier" concern, chartering a company to do anything and everything, and this seemed to settle its fate. The committee agreed to disagree of the bill, next week, and the attempt to discharge the committee was given up. Mr. Delamater stated, very pertinently, that there was evident, in all the bank bills so far introduced, a purpose to obtain, if possible, unusual grants of power, and likewise to secure a relief from the responsibilities and obligations imposed upon similar institutions heretofore. This explains the cause of the delay that has occurred, the scrutiny which these bills require necessarily consuming much time and labor. SPECIAL.

EUROPE.

BY THE ATLANTIC CABLE

Assemblage of the English Parliament—Full Text of the Queen's Speech.

LONDON, February 6.—The prorogued session of Parliament re-opened here to-day. The members of the House of Commons were called to the bar of the Chamber of Peers, where the speech from the Throne was delivered by the Royal Commission. Only eighteen Peers were present, and little interest seemed to be manifested in the proceedings. The Lord Chancellor read Her Majesty's speech, of which the following is a verbatim report:

My Lords and Gentlemen—I thank you cordially on your reassembling for the discharge of your momentous duties. I have satisfaction in announcing the friendly relations which subsist between my foreign powers throughout the world.

I am glad to inform you that I could address you, that steps had been taken to prepare the way for digging a inter-oceanic canal through the Isthmus of Panama, and the mutual advantages of the Suez canal. I have now dispatched an envoy to Zanzibar, furnished with such instructions as appear to me best adapted for the attainment of the object in view. He recently reached his place of destination and had entered into communication with the Sultan, Majesty.

The Emperor of Germany who had undertaken to propose for judgment as an arbiter on the case of water boundary, so long in dispute, under the terms of the Treaty of 1846, has decided in conformity with the evidence that the government of the United States that Haro channel presents the line most in accordance with the true interpretation of that Treaty. I have thought it most befitting the spirit of international friendship and dignity of this country to forego immediate advantage to the cause by withdrawing promptly from my partial occupation of the Island of San Juan.

The proceedings before the Tribunal of Arbitration at Geneva, which I was charged to prosecute in consequence of the depredations of the Confederate cruisers, have terminated in an award, which in part established and in part repelled the claims allowed to be reserved. You will, in due course of time, be asked to provide for the payment of the sum coming due to the United States under this award.

My acknowledgments are due to the German Emperor, likewise to the Italian Government, for the pains and care bestowed by them on the peaceful adjustment of controversies, such as could not but arise in the full discussion of facts, and questions with in a case where it was especially to be charitable.

In the prosecution of well understood and established principles of international law, I have concluded a treaty, to replace that of 1856, which is soon to expire. In prosecuting these communications I have kept in view the principle that no one has a right to existing circumstances and of securing a general benefit, and that the object of international law, are resting on a reciprocal and equal basis for the commercial and maritime relations of the two countries. It is to be considered within a short period of time to continue to you the final result.

It has been with much pain I have felt by the governments of Russia and the United Kingdom respectively that it would be conducive to tranquility in Central Asia that the territories of the latter should be at an identity of views regarding the line which should be drawn between the Russian possessions and Afghanistan. Accordingly correspondence has passed, of which this is the main subject. Its tenor, no one can doubt its result. It will be placed by me before public opinion of both countries.

The papers which will be laid before you with relation to the awards delivered under the treaty of Washington, to the commercial negotiations with France, and to the state of affairs in Spain and Afghanistan.

A vacancy in the House of Commons: The estimates for the coming financial year will be presented to you. They have been formed with a view to the efficient discharge of the public services under circumstances of inconvenience, entailed by extensive and costly improvements. A bill has been before the Queen's speech concerning negotiations with Russia for the preservation of peace in Central Asia. He hoped the papers on this subject which the government had promised to lay before the House would satisfy the House that its course in having stock was what had been testified to before the committee. No influence was brought to bear upon Mr. Bonner would satisfy the question, but was not. That was a matter which the State was attending to. Never heard of any promise ever being made to any member of Congress.

Hon Samuel Hooper then testified that the firm of which he was a member subscribed to the Iowa City and Iowa Falls Road.

Question—To what extent is your firm interested and what was your proportion? Mr. Hooper replied that he had no objection to telling, but he could not see why the committee wanted to inquire into his private affairs. He considered the question impertinent. The firm amount bond by the firm to be $150,000. Witness knew Ames and Mr. Adams both stood in the road. Subscription was made by a partner of the firm, though not until after consultation.

Mr. Hooper's books were then produced and examined by Stevenson.

Question—How was the subscription of the original obtained to the Iowa Falls and Sioux City stock?

Mr. Blaine—I don't understand your question.

Mr. Stevenson—I will ask it more direct. Had you anything to do with the subscription of the Cousins?

Mr. Blaine—I answered that before very frankly. John J. Blair was here talking the matter over with me. I mentioned the subject to him. I said I had not funds, or could not spare the stock. He subsequently wrote to the Messrs. Coburn. They took a block of stock. Witness did not remember of ever having had a conversation with Mr. Ames. Ames never came up in conversation with Senator Grimes.

Mr. Stevenson—I will refer you to your former testimony. Have you it with you? Mr. Blaine—No, sir. I was deprived of getting it for several days on account of your delay. Time it is to your possession I could not correct it.

Mr. Stevenson—You stated in your former testimony that you had business transactions with the Messrs. Coburn. Will you state what those transactions were? Mr. Blaine—I refer you to my testimony. That is a proper question, and so asks me, I will answer; but those transactions were of a private and legitimate nature. However, I do not object to stating them if the committee wants me to.

Judge Poland—Well, sir, the committee has no right to inquire into private business not affecting this investigation.

Mr. Stevenson—I now propose to cross-examine Mr. Blaine on his former testimony.

Mr. Blaine—I would like to know for what new testimony you have been bringing in now, that you wish to cross-examine me on. Is that your knowledge of law?

Mr. Blaine (to the Committee)—I do not propose to be cross-examined by counsel, and I shall refuse to call out of this room a very impudent manner. The proper course for Mr. Stevenson would have been, after introducing his resolution in the House, to come down here, give his testimony and clear out; not indulge in the impertinence of coming down to the House to "catch the Speaker," and then come down here as a counter attorney, asking me if the statements he made to me were true. I feel quite indignant at this course. I think it is so against common decency.

Mr. Stevenson—It appears to me that I have been assaulted before this committee.

Mr. Butler—Yes, sir, by a gallant man.

Judge Poland—Well, I rather think, gentlemen, we have to suspend this course.

Mr. Stevenson—I will not ask Mr. Blaine what he gave the Coburns for the stock he got? Mr. Blaine—I don't you before I gave them $32,500 neither more nor less.

Question—In what? Mr. Blaine—Partly in money and partly in notes. I decline to answer the transaction in my former testimony and every circumstance connected with it.

Mr. Stevenson wanted to inquire as to other dealings between Mr. Blaine and the Coburns.

Judge Poland—I do not think you allow any inquiry as to other dealings.

Mr. Stevenson said nothing else to ask.

Mr. Blaine—Then I desire to put Mr. Stevenson on the stand. He testified before that his motive in introducing the resolution was to "catch the Speaker." Now I would like to show the animus he had in introducing that resolution, and if his relations with the speaker were friendly.

Judge Poland—Well, we must decline to go into all questions.

Mr. Blaine—But I want to show what was back of Mr. Stevenson introducing the resolution, the animus he had in doing so. He wanted to "catch the Speaker."

Mr. Stevenson (very excitedly)—I have rights here, I wish it understood, as well as the Speaker.

Judge Poland—Well this contest must stop here.

Mr. Stevenson—The Speaker said to the House the other day that members must be loyal to the Speaker.

Judge Poland—That will do; this must stop.

Mr. McCrary (laughing, to Blaine)—do you submit?

Mr. Blaine—Oh, certainly, (bowing to Judge Poland.) I believe in being loyal to the Speaker as Mr. Stevenson says.

Mr. Stevenson asked that the Messrs. Coburn be summoned.

Judge Poland thought the testimony already in covered all the points as to the transaction between Blaine and the Coburns.

Mr. Stevenson—My recent experience teaches me not to rely on the word of any man.

Mr. Blaine—That experience is no near home to you that you ought to rely on it. (Laughter.) Mr. Blaine continued addressing the committee. Said: If it is the mind of any member of the committee to ask me any questions, I hope they will be asked, as I have not the remotest shadow of a shade of reluctance to answering all. The matter between myself and the Messrs. Coburn was a simple, straightforward business transaction, as I related the other day, and I have nothing in the world to conceal in regard to it.

Judge Poland announced that no further witnesses would be examined to-day, and the committee at four o'clock went into secret session. They adjourned until ten to-morrow.

THE SPEAKER NOT CAUGHT.

Investigation Concerning Iowa Railroad Stock.

UNPROFITABLE LAND GRANTS

Lively Tilt Between Speaker Blaine and Mr. Stevenson.

WASHINGTON, February 7.—At the sittings of the Poland Committee this morning John J. Blair was examined by Representative Stevens. The witness testified that he was one of the original corporators of the Sioux City, Iowa Falls

The Pittsburgh Commercial: Saturday, February 15, 1873.

Weekly Commercial.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 1873.

A BILL is now pending before the New York Legislature, which provides that any railroad company in that State shall be liable for personal injury or loss of life happening to any of its employees, except where the injury or death result from the carelessness or negligence of the employee. In case of the loss of an arm, or leg, or other permanent disability, the person so disabled *shall* be entitled to recover in an amount not less than fifteen hundred nor more than five thousand dollars; and in case of death, the legal representatives may recover not less than two thousand nor more than seven thousand dollars.

THE New York *Nation* thinks "we are making money enough in all conscience." Judging from certain recent revelations concerning the prevalent greed of gold, the worship of Mammon, corruption, peculation, bribery and perfidy, the fact would rather seem to be that a considerable portion of our wealth is made without any conscience at all. And the grave, pressing, imperative question is, how to remedy it. After all is said and done, there is but one vital and effectual cure, that of individual integrity. The people must begin at home; not with conventions and machineries, but with themselves and their children, working at the beginnings of conscience and conscientiousness, building up the foundations of that strong, assured character which is able to beat back the tempter on all occasions, and which, while fearing to do wrong, fears nothing else in all the world beside.

SO STRONG an opposition to the principle and practical workings of minority representation has already been developed in Illinois which only adopted the innovation a year ago, that an amendment to the State Constitution has been offered in the Legislature for the abolition of the plan and the restoration of the majority system. It is claimed that the effect of "cumulative voting" is only to increase the strength of a party in localities where it is weak, and to decrease its strength in localities where it is strong; while it adds to the expense of the election very greatly, in some places ten times, by increasing the number of candidates, etc. It is also affirmed that it makes cheating easy in counting, besides leaving majorities unrepresented in some cases, and giving their representation to minorities. It is, moreover, said to give greater power to the caucus, enabling new combinations to be made to control elections, or to obtain a majority of the Representatives from any given district. Illinois is the only State in which the principle of minority representation has yet been tried. Propositions have been made looking to its introduction into New York, Indiana, and some other States, but in view of its apparently decided failure to secure the results intended in the former State, it is not likely that the latter will themselves venture on any practical experiments concerning it.

CHEAP and speedy transportation are among the foremost of the great commercial needs of the age. The immense and constantly increasing surplus of the West must seek the seaboard for exportation. Besides all this, the trade of Japan, China and other countries of Eastern Asia will naturally follow the inevitable laws of commerce and trade, seeking those ways in which offer the greatest facilities for the saving of time and expense. Moreover, the Eastern States, as well as our great Atlantic cities, are largely dependent on the West for their wheat, corn, beef, pork and other products of the farm, as well as lumber, requiring a large tonnage for its transportation, and which is to a great extent exchanged for Eastern manufactures, thus providing freight both ways. Hence the question naturally arises: Can the present slow, inadequate, and expensive avenues of trade meet the further demands that are constantly increasing, or can facilities be made upon them? The answer is, no; and out of this reply there naturally arises the question whether the national government shall engage in the construction of transportation lines, or whether it shall content itself with simply fixing the rates of freight? The subject, in which the whole country is interested, will come up for consideration in Congress during the present week. There has been no more important matter before it for years. It must be solved, and it will continue to grow in power and influence until it is fairly met and as fairly settled.

A MOVEMENT is on foot in Mississippi having for its object the payment of the repudiated debt of that State. The historical details by which the State of Mississippi stood committed to the payment of this debt are too numerous to mention. When Mr. BIDDLE, then President of the United States Bank of Pennsylvania, negotiated for the bonds and paid over in good faith the five millions, he was acting as agent for the present holders, the BARINGS of England, the HOPES of Amsterdam, and the ROTHSCHILDS of France and Germany. The capitalists composing these respective firms, as business men and bankers, never for a moment thought of looking to the use of this money, but advanced the five millions on the credit of the State. When Governor MCNUTT, for his own political purpose, made the proposition of repudiation instead of presenting a legal argument against payment, he appealed to the worst prejudices of the human heart by speaking of the bondholders, and especially the Hope family, whereby they became Jews. The act under which the bonds were raised was decided by the Supreme Court of the State to be constitutional. The question of the legality of the issuance of the bonds and liability of the State being thus decided, it was the duty of the legislative department to levy a tax and provide for payment of the debt. This, however, was not done, and the debt is still unpaid, because a sovereign State cannot be coerced or forced to pay. Mississippi is the only State in the Union which has not assumed her repudiated debt. Should the pending movement prove successful, a great reproach will have been wiped from her name.

A NEW SECRET ORDER.

Mechanics living for the most part in towns, and workingmen in manufactories constantly brought together in numbers by the nature of their employment, find it convenient, and to the accomplishment of a common object, American farmers, living isolated in the country, and not having generally even a weekly or monthly market day, like English farmers, to place them in intimate relations with one another, might have been supposed little likely to organize themselves in the interest of their class. But they have the newspaper through which to discuss their relations to one another and to others, and the facilities for personal intercourse afforded by the railroads quite neutralize the disadvantages of their comparative seclusion. And another noteworthy circumstance is the fact that in the management of these very railroads the farmers have found a grievance sufficiently bitter and widely enough felt, to stimulate them into combination for defense and aggression.

Some readers may not be aware of the extent to which the farmers have already succeeded in forming societies of this kind. The members call themselves Patrons of Husbandry, their societies are called Granges, and they are all associated under a constitution in a secret order, which, if not such at present, certainly promises to become a very powerful league. Being a secret order nothing concerning its aims and proceedings is known to the public, except what its members choose to divulge. It is believed to have originated some three years ago after a prolonged deliberation and consultation on the part of its founders. Membership is understood to be restricted to persons more or less practically engaged in the work of cultivating the ground. "Gentlemen farmers" are admitted, but only such as prove by their activity that they take a genuine interest in agricultural progress, and it may, therefore, be taken for granted—we speak not by commandment or authority—that mere amateur farmers, so called to avoid the reproach of absolute idleness, are excluded from the fraternity. If this assumption should be verified as fact, it would tend to cast some doubt upon the prevalent outside theory as to the great object of the League. Our own suspicion is that the reported term of membership to which we allude is designed altogether for the exclusion of aspiring politicians of a certain class. In England, where ground is the ground of honor, an ambitious gentleman was once known to claim deep concern in the agricultural interest, much to the enhancement of his prestige in society, until he discovered that his claim rested on the cultivation of a little oats in a kitchen box. Our shrewd Patrons of Husbandry possibly anticipate and seek to guard against the intrusion of ambitious men of the same class.

But it is time to discard conjecture and fanciful supposition and to state what is known about the Patrons of Husbandry. The order lately held a convention or grand congregation at Des Moines, in the State of Iowa, in which a great number of the local "Granges" were represented. In fact, eleven hundred delegates were present, and we are told that the fifty hundred delegates who were expected by the brethren of that place, would have been there but for the bad condition of the weather and the roads. The State of Iowa seems to be the center of the order, containing no less than eight hundred and fifty-four Granges or lodges, with not much fewer than fifty thousand members. It is, however, by no means confined to that State, having already within a little more than two years, spread itself over almost the entire Union. In the whole United States there are said to be eighteen hundred and thirty-eight Granges, of which Minnesota has a hundred and twelve, South Carolina a hundred and two, and the remainder, seven-hundred and seventy, are distributed over eighteen States. The order, it seems, has found small favor in New England, Vermont alone having two Granges.

The Davenport *Democrat*, the paper from which we derive the foregoing facts, without professing confidently to define the object of the League, has no doubt that it is an organized attempt to resist the power of certain great corporations of which the farmers think they have much reason to complain. In the late convention at Des Moines some of the chief topics of discussion were railway competition, reasonable freight rates, narrow-gauge roads, etc., and concerning these subjects the members of this secret order made no secret of their opinions. Our statement would be incomplete without the additional fact that women, entitled "Matrons of Husbandry," belong to the Granges. Thus the farmers league may be regarded as quite on a level with the times, while it avoids the reproach which has always attached to some other secret associations.

A VALIANT THRONE.

King AMADEUS has resigned his ticksome crown, and will most probably return to his native Italy. His reign has been as troublous as brief. He was elected by the Spanish Cortes in November, 1870, by a vote of one hundred and ninety-one to one hundred and twenty; the Carlists casting twelve blank ballots, and was soon afterward crowned amid general enthusiasm and rejoicing. Upon the occasion of his coronation he declared that he should have no other purpose than the unity and happiness of the nation," and this promise he appears to have kept to the extent of his ability. It was hoped that under his reign the country would settle down into comparative order and tranquility, and regain something of the former rank which it held at the council board of the nations. Among our own people the young ruler had been universally beloved for his generous nobility of heart, his patriotism, his gallantry and liberal sentiments; and it was thought that his good judgment, in combination with his advantages of position, his political relations of the day, would win for him the support and approval of the people over whom he had ostensibly been called to reign. But the apparently brilliant auspices under which he ascended the throne were of exceedingly short duration, and the honest efforts which he made to lift Spain from its chaotic condition into order and progress, completely falled of their purpose. On the contrary, his frank, manly and simple nature, and the wise, firm and liberal measures on which he relied for popularity among his new subjects in the end resulted in the alienation of those who called him. The day has passed in which nations can be transferred from one ruler to another without being thoroughly consulted in the matter, and no doubt much of the trouble and disaster which marked his reign arose from the fact that he was, by a large proportion of the people, considered less in the light of a rightful sovereign than in that of a foreign interloper. Much sympathy, however, will be extended to him by reason of his admirable qualities of mind and heart; and since it was manifestly impossible for him to reconcile the fierce antagonisms which for fifty years past have gripped that country, the wisest and most sensible course he could pursue was to doff his trappings of royalty and betake himself back to his own land.

A Test of Wheat as a Diet.

Dr. Bourne is an enthusiastic vegetarian. He is sixty-four years of age, and has walked from Portland, Oregon, to San Francisco, California, a distance of 800 miles. He also has written a long account of his journey. And what does the reader suppose was the eccentric object of his little walk? We give it in his own words: "My great object was to demonstrate, by so positive a test, the value of wheat alone as an article of subsistence under laborious and exhaustive conditions." Therefore, in the "interest of humanity and dietetic reform," he started from the City Hall, Portland, Oregon, on the 27th of May, at 4 o'clock in the morning, and was "thirty-four days walking the first hundred miles. Until the fifth day Dr. Bourne ate nothing but pure unboiled wheat flour mixed with water, and stewed fruit. After the fifth day his food was only cracked, boiled wheat, soaked in boiling hot water. Subsisting upon this food wholly, having walked 800 miles in thirty-four "walking days"—that is exclusive of ten or more "resting days"—he arrived at Portland within two pounds of the one hundred and fifty-three pounds with which he started. Such, he says, is the value of a wheat diet.

A Man Who Never Fills Out His Term.

The Chicago *Evening Journal* relates the following of the present Governor of Illinois: "No sooner did Gen. John L. Beveridge return from the war, in which he was a gallant cavalry officer, than he was nominated for sheriff of this county, and elected. Before his term as sheriff had expired, he was elected State Senator. Before his office of Senator expired, he was nominated and elected Congressman for the State at large, to fill the vacancy caused by Gen. Logan's resignation. Last fall before his term of Congressman had expired he was nominated and elected Lieutenant Governor, which position he entered upon two weeks ago, and which day Governor Oglesby having resigned, Gen. Beveridge becomes Governor of the State. Verily, he is one of the luckiest men, politically, in the United States."

Local Option in Indiana County.

A correspondent informs us that four townships in the northern part of Indiana county held their spring elections on Friday last, and voted as follows on the license question:

	Against license.	For license.
North Mahoning	190	60
South	127	49
East	190	20
Marion borough	59	5
	436	134
Majority against license	299	

THE annual report of the Department of Public Parks in New York, for 1872, just published, shows that during the year the appropriations amounted to $971,616, and the expenditures to $897,436, leaving a balance of $74,181. The Central Park, to January, 1872, cost $12,448,623, but on the other hand the city has realized great benefit from this improvment. Thus in three wards adjoining the Park, the assessed value of property has risen from $25,429,665 in 1856, to $185,891,195 in 1871, being an increased valuation of $160,327,530. In the three wards mentioned the increased taxes have exceeded the interest on the cost of land and improvements by $2,726,596. In 1871 over ten million persons, or thirty thousand persons daily, visited the park, while on some Sundays as many as one hundred thousand persons have enjoyed its benefits, The Central Park Police, in 1871, cost $148,014.

The American Agriculturist,

published by Orange Judd & Co., 245 Broadway, New York, ranks high among the best journals of its class, at home or abroad. Elevated in tone, and giving the farmer practical instruction as to how best and most profitably to perform his work, it deserves its wide-spread circulation and influence. It is cheap enough, too, to be within the reach of all, the subscription price being but $1 50 per year, or four copies for $5 00. Messrs. Orange Judd & Co. also publish *Hearth and Home*, an illustrated family journal, filled with choice articles from the pens of our most illustrious writers, and a serial story by Dr. Eggleston, author of the "Hoosier Schoolmaster" and the "End of the World." *Hearth and Home* and a handsome chromo are furnished at $3 to single subscribers.

STEWART and Sotherland, two residents of Napa, Cal., are most remarkable men if their own story is to be believed. In 1835 they were brother sailors and successful mutineers on board an English ship laden with Peruvian treasure. The precious cargo was buried on an uninhabited island. All of the rebellious crew, except the two mentioned, were captured and executed. The survivors swore to each other that they would not go to the island unless they went together. Years have passed, and they have recently concluded to go for it. A joint stock company is to be formed and a vessel purchased, and the recovered treasure will be given to needy citizens—that is if the story is true.

A MISS HARDWICK, of Delaware, Davless county, Kentucky, committed an indiscretion, and was cast out by her relatives. Early last week she was on the eve of confinement, but her relatives—she had no friends—refused her shelter. On Thursday night last the weather being extremely cold, she applied at the houses of two of her relatives, stated her condition, and was refused permission to remain during the night. At one house in the neighborhood she was thrust out of doors, and was driven away. She found shelter in an old barn, in the neighborhood, where she gave birth to her child. The next morning the mother and child were found dead.

THE export of woolen and worsted manufactures, the product of Great Britain reached an unprecedented amount in the year 1872. The export of woolen (or mixed) cloths consisted 40,893,020 yards, of the declared value of $85,041,685; of worsted (or mixed) stuffs, 344,931,897 yards, of the value of $25,009,000; of blankets and blanketing: 8,255,975 yards, of the value of $3,144,125; of flannels, 8,781,808 yards, of the value of $2,381,775; of carpets, 11,769,251 yards, of the value of $9,572,829. Thus, without reckoning the minor items of hosiery and small wares, the year's export amounted to 412,961,961 yards of the value of $154,992,659.

HARRISBURG.

Special Dispatch to Pittsburgh Press.

HARRISBURG, PA., February 11, 1873.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House met to-day at eleven o'clock, when the joint resolutions of the Senate and the Governor's message, relative to the death of Governor Geary, were received. Feeling remarks in reference to deceased were made by Messrs. Latta, Newmeyer, Judge Lawson, Mitchell and Mahon. The concurrent resolutions were adopted by a unanimous vote upon a call of the yeas and nays.

The joint committee on funeral arrangements adopted the following order: The body to lay in state on Wednesday morning in the hall of the House of Representatives, in charge of a guard of honor. On Thursday the body to be taken from the residence of the family to the Presbyterian church, thence to the Harrisburg cemetery. The following will act as pall bearers: Governor John F. Hartranft; Hon. George Anderson, Speaker of the Senate; Hon. Wm. Elliott, Speaker of the House of Representatives; Senators Rutan and McSherry and Representatives Latta, Darrah and Newmeyer.

Special to the Pittsburgh Press.

HARRISBURG, February 12, 1873.

No business was done in either House today. The Senators and Members went in a body from the Capitol to the residence of the late Governor Geary and escorted the body to the hall of the House, where it lay in state profusely decorated with crape and flowers. General Jordon and a large number of the military were present. The funeral services will take place to-morrow, at eleven o'clock.

The snow is six inches deep here.

Special Correspondence of the Pittsburgh Commercial.

HARRISBURG, February 10, 1873.

The sudden and totally unexpected death of Gov Geary, has thrown everything into confusion for the present. There are, as I write, but few members of either House here, but they have, upon consultation, concluded to offer resolutions in both Houses suspending all legislative business until after the funeral, and to adjourn to Thursday night, at seven o'clock to take up the private calendars which were previously fixed as the order for to-morrow. A joint committee will be appointed to make arrangements for the funeral, in conjunction with the family, and the State will assume the expense of the burial. The chambers of the Senate and House have been draped in mourning, and all the Executive departments will be similarly treated. The funeral is to be on Thursday morning.

No instance of the kind has ever occurred in this State before; but it has been thought best, as Gov. Geary was in office for two weeks after the Legislature, communicating with it by message and held other official relations with it, and has been out of office but a few weeks, to treat it as if he had died in office, and pay the same respect to his memory.

There will be very little legislation, therefore, this week. In fact, the week may be considered as lost. Unfortunately, when the two Houses adjourned last week, the lower House adjourned to Tuesday, instead of Monday night, as usual. Had both Houses been in session to-night, the funeral would have been fixed for Wednesday, and so a day would have been saved.

Mr. Humphries has drawn up a bill, which he will offer at the first opportunity, to provide for the compensation of boilers and engines in Allegheny county. This is a very important bill, and has been very carefully drawn. It authorizes a commission of five experts, to examine candidates, and from the men recommended by them the Governor will select one, together, and the latter was heard saying, "If you want to save yourselves, make for the foretopmast," to which many people responded.

THE VESSEL GOES DOWN.

In a quarter of an hour a tug picked up the second boat, with thirty occupants and then steamed on some time in search of the others. Two boats, full of officers of an hour after being struck, the Northfleet went down, head first, with awful suddenness with three hundred and twenty-seven souls on board. At that moment the vessel was reported her forty feet of water. The pumps started promptly to work. The engineers had on their best steam, but when it was found the water was rapidly gaining, a panic seized to seize both crew and passengers, and the officers could not keep the latter in check. A crowd of men and women had rushed up from their berths, many only half clothed. The passengers had mostly retired, but a few were undressing. The noise of collision is likened by one of them to a peal of thunder, and such was the violence of the shock that those standing were knocked down. It seems the steamer rebounded and came a second time in the collision with the Northfleet. The water began to pour in, and in a very short time the passengers' quarters were swamped. The women were slower to rush on deck than the men, and many were still in a condition to go till the water rose threateningly around them. No one on board the steamer was injured, although four of the crew reported that the Northfleet must have made her crew aware of the terrible danger that existed. She backed for two or three minutes, and then steamed rapidly away out of sight.

AN APPALLING SCENE.

For half an hour there was scarcely the deck of the Northfleet was appalling. Women shrieked, men cursed and fought their way towards the boats whilst the Captain and first mate roared out commands to the people to keep back and allow the men to get to the side of the vessel, but apparently without success. Rockets were fired and blue lights burned. A gun was loaded, but the screw of the rammer becaing detached from the handle, and the piece could not be discharged. The signals of distress were seen by several vessels, but appear to have been regarded as signals for a pilot, for no assistance was rendered. Meanwhile the scene on deck baffles description.

THE CAPTAIN BECOMES DESPERATE.

The Captain, finding the men determined to leave the vessel, went below and armed himself with a revolver, and ascending the poop declared his determination to shoot the first man who tried to force his way into the boats. Some twenty men the first boat launched was lowered by a number of passengers by cutting the ropes. These being the ladder at hand the only way of getting into it was by leaping or dropping some twelve or fifteen feet. As there was a terrible rush towards the boat the scene was one of distressing confusion, and a man and boy fell into the water and drowned. The officers did all they could to force the men who first got into the boat to leave it, but the men might as well have spoken to a corpse, even firing (with blank cartridge, it is supposed at them was unavailing. Even in Lazzero and Wyvern's combination. Witness produced an inventory of the personal estate of Mr. Stevens, amounting to $1,000. The administrator in the case of Mr. Hendricks, of Indiana, as President, and for B. Gratz Brown, of Missouri, as Vice President.

The next deviation was in the case of Georgia, and Mr. Beck having examined the certificate endorsed that the electors appointed by the State President had been given as follows: H. G. Brown, of Missouri, for President; Gratz Brown, of Missouri, for Vice President; Alfred H. Colquitt, of Georgia, Chas. J. Jenkins, of Georgia, twelve votes for Grant and the eleven votes for Vice President Brown, of Missouri, for Vice President. Mr. Beck then read the certificate from the State of Georgia, which declared that the electors appointed by the State had given their votes as follows: For President, Horace Greeley, of New York; for Vice President, B. Gratz Brown, of Missouri.

Mr. Dickey also objected, because it appeared that there was not a legal majority of Electors, only four of the original Electors having been present, and had undertaken to fill the places of four who were absent.

THE SENATE AGAIN WITHDRAWS.

These two objections having been made, the Senate again, at 4:20 P. M., withdrew to its chamber, in order that both Houses might pass separately upon the objections.

ACTION BY THE HOUSE.

In reference to the objection made by Senator Trumbull, the House adopted a resolution, offered by Mr. Darwin, that the vote of Texas should be counted as reported by the tellers, and in reference to the objection made by Mr. Dickey, the House adopted a resolution that a quorum is an arbitrary number, which under such decisions has a right to establish for itself, and that as it does not appear that the choice of Electors was in conflict with the law of that State, and as a majority of the Electors were present, the vote of Texas should be counted.

At 2:30 P. M. the Senate returned to its chamber and the Vice President submitted the objection made by Mr. Dickey in the Joint Convention to the counting of the Electoral votes of Texas in the absence of four Electors, and the action of the House thereon.

Mr. Stevenson objected to counting any vote from the State of Louisiana, because it did not satisfactorily appear that the votes of Louisiana were elected according to law.

Senator Carpenter also objected to counting any of the votes of Louisiana, because there was not a proper return of the votes cast by the Electors of that State, and because there was no State government in that State republican in form, and because no canvass of the votes cast in that State had been made.

Senator Trumbull objected to the first certificate certifying the election of Grant and Wilson, because there was not, and never had been, a State that was not at the time Secretary of State nor in possession of the seal of that State, and because that certificate was not true in fact, as proved by the admission of Bovee before the Committee of Ten.

All objections to the vote of Louisiana having been withdrawn, Senator Rice submitted the vote of Arkansas, it being that the election returns showed that the persons certified to by the Secretary of State were duly elected as Electors for President and Vice President, and because the returns had in the hands of the Governor, and had been certified according to law.

The Senate at 6:15 o'clock withdrew, and for the first time there was much confusion in the House, caused by an effort on the part of many members to take a recess till to-morrow, and by the efforts of other members to defeat that proportion. The motion for recess was defeated—yeas 81, nays 101.

SEPARATE SESSIONS AGAIN.

Objection to the vote of Arkansas was then submitted to the House, and a resolution adopted by a vote of 103 to 87, on motion of Mr. Snyder, that the vote be counted for Grant and Wilson.

Mr. Banks made a point of order that the House had no power to decide on the justice of eligibility.

The Speaker remarked that that was a question for the House to determine under the resolution, not a point of order within the purview of the chair.

A vote was then taken on the point of order, and amid much excitement, particularly as it became evident that a majority of the House were in the difficulty presented itself of having the Senate and House take opposite sides of the question. The vote resulted, however, in the adoption of the resolution by yeas 102, nays 98. Many Republicans voted against, and a number of Democrats voted with the majority

The Pittsburgh Commercial: Saturday, February 15, 1873.

THE INSURANCE LAWS.

An Act to Establish an Insurance Department.

The bill introduced into the Senate, by Mr. Rutan, a few days ago, entitled "an act to establish an Insurance Department," provides that the execution of the laws of the Commonwealth, in relation to insurance, shall be in charge of the Insurance Department, the chief officer of which shall be appointed by the Governor, for a term of three years, at a salary of $5,000 per annum, and shall be known as "the Insurance Commissioner of Pennsylvania." He shall have power to employ such clerks as may be required, to be paid at the same rate as the clerks in the office of the Secretary of the Commonwealth. One of those clerks shall be Deputy Commissioner, with power to act in the absence of the Commissioner, and shall receive $1,500 per annum. All books, records, etc., in the Auditor General's office, relating to insurance, shall be transferred to the Insurance Commissioner. It shall be his duty:

1. To see that all laws of this State relating to insurance are faithfully executed; to call in his office every charter now or hereafter required to be filed, and furnish certified copies thereof on application.

2. To calculate each year the net value of all the policies in force in each life insurance company doing business in the State, organized by authority of this State, and of every other life insurance company doing business in this State—which calculation shall be based on the American Experience table of mortality, and four and one-half per cent. interest per annum; and the net value of a policy at any time shall be taken to be the sum now paying which will at that time effect the insurance, less the value at that time of the future net premiums called for by the table of mortality and rate of interest.

3. When found that any life insurance company doing business in this State has not on hand the net value of all its policies in force, after all other debts and claims have been provided for, the Insurance Commissioner shall publish the fact that the condition of the company is below the standard of legal safety, and require the company to cease doing new business.

4. He shall accept the valuations made by the Insurance Commissioner of the State under which the life insurance company was organized, when such valuations have been properly made.

5. For every company doing fire insurance business he shall calculate the reinsurance reserve for unexpired fire risks by taking fifty per cent. of the premiums received on all unexpired risks that have less than one year to run, and a pro rata of all premiums received on risks that have more than one year to run; and in marine and inland insurance he shall charge all the premiums received on unexpired risks as a reinsurance reserve. When the reinsurance reserve is less than forty per cent. of the premiums received during the year, the reinsurance reserve in this case shall be the whole of the premiums received on all its unexpired risks.

6. Having charged the reinsurance reserve, and adding thereto all other debts, he shall in case he finds the capital stock impaired to the extent of twenty per cent., give notice to the company to make good the whole capital stock within sixty days, and if this is not done he shall require it to cease doing new business, and institute legal proceedings to determine what further shall be done. After notice to make good the whole capital stock, the company shall forfeit to the State the amount of the dividends for such amount as may be required, and in case any stockholder refuses to pay the assessment, the company may require the return of the original certificate, and trade to such stockholder a new certificate to such amount as may be proper to make up the loss. Wherever the capital stock of a joint stock fire or marine insurance company becomes impaired, the Commissioner may permit the company to increase its capital stock and the par value of its shares to the extent of impairment, under certain specified limitations.

7. After a life insurance company has been notified to cease doing new business, the Commissioner shall examine rigidly all its affairs, and if no fraud or gross recklessness are found, he may permit it to continue in charge of its business for one year, provided there is reason to believe it will re-establish the legal net value of its policies.

8. Whenever the Commissioner shall have reason to believe that any insurance company is insolvent, or fraudulently conducted, he shall employ the Attorney General, who shall apply to any Court for an order requiring said company to show cause why their business should not be closed. The facts shall be determined by a commissioner, and if the company is insolvent, the Court shall order a decree to its solution and distribution of its effects; if not, the company may resume.

9. The Commissioner shall publish the results of his examinations into the affairs of any company, whenever he deems it for the public interest to do so. He may suspend the entire business of any company for compliance with the provisions of this act.

10. He is given free access to all books and papers of any insurance company or agency within the State; may summon and examine any person under oath, and prosecute for all violations of this act.

Fees are authorized to be collected for the purpose of defraying the expenses of the department; and if the fees are insufficient the deficiency is to be assessed, in just proportion, upon all the companies.

Each company must file with the commissioner, within ninety days after the first day of January, a copy of the charter, certificate of time of organization, location of principal place of business, names of officers, etc., and as soon as practicable the commissioner shall institute an examination into its affairs. One thousand dollars per annum will be imposed for each month's delay in complying with this section.

No contract of insurance can be made by any person or company, without complying with this act. Any person or corporation, agent, or employe in forwarding applications, or in any way transacting business for any insurance company not of this State, without authority expressly in force, shall incur a penalty of five hundred dollars for each month or fraction thereof, during which such illegal business was transacted.

The provisions of this act shall not be applicable to insurance companies organized by other of the States, or by the United States, or by foreign governments, until after the first day of January, 1874; nor shall it apply to fire insurance companies of this State, organized and conducted on the purely mutual plan, with premium notes as the basis of security, and without capital stock guaranty capital, or accumulated reserve in lieu of capital stock, provided that purely mutual fire insurance companies not subject to the provisions of this act, shall not do business beyond the limits of this Commonwealth.

That it shall not be lawful for any city, county or municipality, to impose or collect any license fee or tax upon insurance companies of other States authorized to transact business under this act.

That the act entitled "An Act to revise, amend and consolidate the several laws regulating the licensing of foreign insurance companies," approved April 11th, 1868, be and the same is hereby repealed, said repeal to date from the first day of January, 1874, saving, however, to the Commonwealth the right to collect all taxes and fees accrued under said act, for which purpose it shall continue in full force and effect.

STATIONARY STEAM BOILERS.

Senator Humphrey's Bill for the Appointment of an Inspector of Steam Engines and Boilers.

Reference has already been made to the bill prepared and introduced by Senator Humphreys, relative to the inspection of stationary steam engines and boilers in Allegheny county. The bill is entitled "an act to provide for the appointment of a Board of Examiners, and the appointment of an Inspector of Steam Engines and Steam Boilers."

Section first empowers the Governor to appoint five citizens of Allegheny county, practical manufacturers of steam engines and boilers, or scientific experts, familiar with the management of the same, who shall serve without compensation.

Section two provides that the County Commissioners shall provide an office in the Court House for said Commissioners, and applicants for the position of Inspector under this act must appear before said Commissioners for examination. They are to be examined on construction, and the capacity of iron to safely sustain a given pressure; also upon the general designing of steam boilers, ability to manage the same, and such other essential qualifications as the Commissioners deem proper.

Section three provides that applicants passing the proper examinations shall be furnished a certificate, and the Governor shall appoint one of said applicants and commission him to serve for two years from the 1st of May ensuing. It shall be the duty of the Inspector to examine all stationary engines or boilers erected or in use within the limits, goes into effect, and the same shall be examined from time to time as the Inspector or may deem proper. No boiler shall be erected without a certificate from the Inspector that it has been examined and found to be perfect.

Section five empowers the Inspector to appoint one skilled assistant. The Inspector is required to give bonds in the sum of $10,000, to be approved by the Court of Common Pleas, and both officers are to take an oath not to accept any gratuity, or be under any consideration whatever during their term of office under a very severe penalty.

Section six requires the Inspector to make an examination once a year in regard to the following: First, setting of boilers; second, workmanship and condition; third, thickness and kind of plates employed; fourth, their apparent condition as regards imperfections, wear or injury—and if found to have the maker's name and the quality of the material stamped upon each sheet, in accordance with the steamboat laws of the United States. He is also to inspect the feeding apparatus, together with all the appurtenances to be placed upon boilers and the pipe connections. The boilers shall also be submitted to the hydrostatic test, to ascertain if they can withstand one-third greater pressure than that at which the boiler is to be used, as set forth in the Inspector's certificate. He shall examine all the boilers for safety valves to see that "2" or ball is not heavier than allowed by law.

Section seven requires the Inspector to furnish a certificate of the minimum pressure at which the boiler must be worked, and other essentials regarding the safety of the boiler. When the assistant furnishes the certificate it must be signed by him and countersigned by the Inspector, and should the Inspector deem the engine driver incompetent, he can withhold or withdraw his certificate.

Section eight requires the Inspector to report semi-annually to the Governor of the number of boilers examined and the condition and exp-nditures of the office. He shall also examine into the cause of all explosions and report in writing promptly to the Governor.

Section nine requires the feeding engines to be so arranged that they can be used at all times. There must be upon the boilers three gauge cocks. In addition to some other means of indicating the water level. The steam gauge must be kept in good order, and also be liable for any damages caused by defective boilers.

A SAD CASE.

A Husband Frozen on His Wife's Grave.

A sad case was brought to the notice of the reporter on saturday. Some eight months ago an employe in an oil refinery, whom we shall call Mr. Wm. Mc. Cook became very melancholy and on one occasion was detected in an attempt to commit suicide, subsequently he became cheerful again and commenced paying attentions to a lady living in the Twelfth ward. The latter was the object of his friends that he was about to be married again, but something occurred which broke off the match. The next heard of Cook the town of Oil City on the night being on his wife's grave in the Allegheny Cemetery with both his hands frozen. He was taken to St. Francis Hospital, and treated, but the physicians could not restore the frozen limbs and it was determined to amputate them. Yesterday four physicians visited the Hospital for the purpose of performing the op ration, but Cook would not consent, preferring to die rather than he would "rather die than live without legs." The physicians decided, but hope that the unfortunate man will change his mind determined to allow the operation to be performed, which will be the only chance of saving his life.

An Englishman, but lately arrived in this country, has created considerable excitement in Jersey City. His proceedings resemble those of the bogus Lord Gordon, who fleeced Jay Gould and others handsomely. He made a great display; contracted for a tract of iron land at a big price, promising to pay $200,000 in gold thereon at a certain date, but didn't; sold worthless right draft for $50,000 gold to a civil engineer in the employ of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company; got $1,000 worth of legal services from a New York lawyer without paying for them, etc. Numerous charges have been made against him in the police courts of the city, by persons whom he had tried to defraud, but were withdrawn. Public opinion is divided as to whether the man is a knave or a fool.

Among the bills which passed the House on Saturday was one which will sound strange to the country at this day. It was literally payment for a runaway negro during the war. While the Twenty-seventh Wisconsin Regiment, Col. W. L. Utley, was in Kentucky, a young negro belonging to Chief Justice Robertson, of that State, ran away and took refuge in the Colonel's camp. Judge Robertson demanded his property, but Col. Utley responded that "he didn't enlist to catch negroes." Robertson thereupon brought suit and got a judgment against Utley. The Colonel refused to pay and hold the officer harmless, but only by the assumption of the liability.

SEE in another column, advertisement about Iowa and Nebraska Lands.

FINANCE AND TRADE.

WEDNESDAY EVENING, February 12, 1873.

The market continues to rule much easier for commercial paper, and inquiries for A 1 names are noted on the street to-day at ten per cent.—a healthy sign, for the Abednegoes have up until now still closed their purse strings to any appeal which did not offer the round dozen. Ten per cent. may now be quoted as the ruling rate on the street, which is a prognostic of easier times, for it is harder to drop from twelve to ten than from ten to nine, and when the last-named rate is reached for outside paper, money may be fairly quoted as abundant in Pittsburgh. The country banks seem to be absorbing much of the paper which ordinarily seeks a local habitation, and another feature is contraction of loans by many, or at the very least several of the firms about us, who have been during the previous year large borrowers.

As the season is soon to open for the shipment of iron ores from the Lake Superior and the Missouri regions, the attention of capitalists is being devoted to these localities, and Pittsburghers are not backward in this respect. A good deal of money has been invested in lands and improvements on Lake Superior whence the investors anticipate realizing large returns during the present year, and for the most part with good reason. The price of ore has, we understand, been fixed for 1873 by a number of the largest iron companies making contracts for the larger part of their product at twelve dollars per ton, delivered at the docks in Cleveland. This price will probably be the ruling one until towards the close of navigation, when, if we are to judge from the experience of previous years, it will likely go two or three dollars higher.

In New York the stock market has been all day exceptionally weak, a general dullness seeming to pervade the financial atmosphere. Erie fell off two or three per cent., also Western Union, and the most of the prominent stocks sold at lower prices than those of Tuesday. The market stiffened, however, towards the close, with evident prospects of a reaction, and private advices indicate an advance in Lake Shore.

Locally we remark an increase of inquiries for investments of trust funds. Small moneyages from three to ten thousand dollars find ready sale at nine and ten per cent., with the supply a little short of the demand.

—Messrs. Ira B. McVay & Co. report the following quotations of Government bonds in New York to-day, as furnished them by Jay Cook & Co., their correspondents:

	Bid.	Asked.
U. S. Bonds of 1881	112½	113
U. S. Bonds of 1865	115½	115¾
U. S. Bonds of 1865, new	113¾	113¾
U. S. Bonds of 1865	115½	115¾
U. S. Bonds of 1868, new	114¼	114½
U. S. Bonds of 1868	114¾	115
U. S. Bonds of 1868	116½	116¾
U. S. Bonds of 1868	113¾	113¾
New York Central	103½	103½
Erie	93¾	94
Michigan Central	95¾	96
Illinois Central	130	130½
Pittsburgh & Fort Wayne	95¾	96
Chicago and Northwest	81	81½
do preferred	90	90½
Rock Island	113	113¼
Ohio & Mississippi	32	32½
Ohio Central	42¾	43
Ohio & Pacific	95	95½
Union Pacific	93¾	93¾
Sterling Mountain	7	8
Fort Wayne	95	96
Terre Haute and Indianapolis	46	46½
do preferred	75	76
Toledo and Wabash	41¾	42
Wabash preferred	68	68½
Canton Co.	42¾	43
Quicksilver	41¾	42
do preferred	65	65½
Pacific Mail	37½	37¾
Western Union Tel.	85¾	86
Adams Express	97	98
United States Express	48	48½
American Express	63½	64

—Messrs. Robinson Bros., bankers, No. 78 Fourth avenue, furnish the following telegraphic report of quotation of active stocks on the Philadelphia Stock Board to-day:

Penn's Central	93¾	Penna. and Erie	26
Reading	93¾	Cam. and Amboy Navigation	97½
United Co.'s of N.J.	122	Pittsburgh Ins.	72¾
Oil Creek & A. V. R. R.	34½	A. V. R. R. 7-30s	91
Lehigh Valley R. R.	66¾	Central Transportn.	48¾

WOOL MARKETS.

NEW YORK.

February 5.—The market displays no animation whatever, and prices are soft. The few manufacturers that are running the mills only purchase enough to carry them through the week. There is considerable talk among them of forming a combination, and closing their mills until better prices rule in the goods market. The few sales reported are of limited extent. These comprise 50,000 lbs ca pet wools at 36½@40c; 10,000 lbs scoured fall California 50@56c; 2,000 lbs pulled extra 62c; 5,000 lbs unwashed combing fine 40c; 5,000 lbs unwashed do 36c; 5,000 lbs choice do 67c; 54 bales spring California and 1,000 lbs scoured fine do at private terms. By auction, 54 bales damaged East India sold at 14½@15c, cash.—*Commercial List.*

February 8.—The market remains in the same condition as previously reported, as to prices, perhaps, are a little stiffer, owing to the failure of the meeting of manufacturers which was held in this city on the 5th inst., the object being to close all mills until better prices could be realized for certified. As the gathering only some twenty firms were represented, and after a short session an adjournment was proposed and carried without any business of importance being transacted. The demand is, present seems to be for no particular description, as the sales show a little of most every kind of domestic, fleece receiving the best attention from buyers and close perception. The transactions comprise 50 bales Cape at 38@39c; 16,000 lbs do, 37½c; 10,000 lbs spring Calif. fair, 39c; 2,500 lbs do, 40c; 20,000 lbs pulled 50@55c; 5,000 lbs coarse do mostly, 48c; 10,000 lbs Ohio X at 62½c; 6,000 do and Michigan, 63@65c; 1,000 lbs Georgia, 47½@48c; 2,500 lbs Indiana fine, 56c; 50 bags of mixed, private; 20,000 lbs low carpet, 17,000 lbs Oregon, 20,000 lbs spring California, 25 bales Cape, and 5,000 lbs Texas, on private terms. At the auction sale in Boston, 1,000 pieces of damaged mixed sold at prices ranging from 49c up to $1 16, clear Australian bringing the latter price.

IMPORT OF WOOL INTO NEW YORK, FROM JAN. 1 TO JAN. 31, 1873.

	Bales.
From Foreign Ports	5,769
Coastwise Ports	2,500
Total	8,269
Same time, 1872	1,306

—Commercial List.

PHILADELPHIA.

February 5.—Our wool market is active, and with advance in America, as per mail advices just to hand, the chances for American importers of Bombay wool appear to be much better this season than last. Last season there was a scramble for wool in our market, without regard to price paid, and with necessarily a large profit realized. At present wool is moderately priced and without excitement in our market; the selection is much better, and we need scarcely say that a very great deal depends upon selection.

February 8.—Prices favor buyers and there is little movement. Small sales are reported. The quotations are as follows: Ohio, Pennsylvania and West Virginia XX at 63@70c; X at 60@63c; medium (½ to ¾ blood), 60@65c; coarse (¼ blood), 63@65c; common dingy and other Western States, 56@60c; fine unwashed, 45@50c; medium unwashed, 48@50c; coarse and burry unwashed, 42@45c; combing unwashed, 55@60c; washed combing, 78@90c; Philadelphia No 1 and clothing mixed, 56@57c; Philadelphia merino pulled, 50@55c; western super pulled, 52@55c; western merino pulled, 50@55c.—*North American.*

BOSTON.

February 8.—The condition of the wool market for the past two weeks has occasioned much surprise, and is rather remarkable. The stocks of all desirable wools are known to be small, and good domestic fleeces were in especially light supply; now only here, but in the West. All reports agree on this point. The only choice wool in large lots is held by the holders of that little are very firm. The stocks in manufacturers' hands have been small most of the time for several months, and they have, as a rule, bought very little ahead of requirements of their wants. Notwithstanding this condition of things, prices have declined, and during the past week there has been no uniformity whatever. The sales for two weeks have been very light, and the market is weak and unsettled, and altogether in an unsatisfactory condition.

This is due largely to the fact that manufacturers got a decided scare at any advance, and have consequently obtained before the fire, and as manufacturing was unprofitable at those rates the proprietors of mills have been unable to increase the cost of goods by paying any advance on material. We hear of a lot of 100,000 pounds of fleece wool which was bought before the fire at 60c, and without finding a purchaser. Manufacturers talk about closing their mills, but very few sets of machinery are stopped by it.

One reason for the small mess of the sales recently has probably been the fact that it was known that Messrs. Morse, Dexter & Co. were to sell a large lot of wool by auction, and buyers preferred to await the result of that sale. It took place recently. The amount offered being 2,169 bales, say about 200,000 pounds. The wool had passed through the fire, was recovered from the ruins, and had been assorted and scoured. About 1,500 bags were Australian, and the balance fine, medium, unwashed and coarse fleece.

The attendance was very large at the competition active. The prices obtained were very full, and the expectations of dealers. The terms were "cash or satisfactorily endorsed paper with interest at 7 per cent. added."—*Commercial Bulletin.*

Pork Packing in the West.

Chicago, February 8.—Howard, White & Crowell's *Commercial Bulletin* to-day publishes a report of the hog packing in fifteen different States, from dates varying from January 15 to February 8. The table includes fifty points in Ohio, 52 in Indiana, 34 in Illinois, 11 in Iowa, 24 in Missouri, 14 in Wisconsin, and embraces the principal packing points in those States. The number packed at these twenty-six points this season, 4,675,732; estimated total packing at the same points for the entire season, 5,528,000; against the total last season, 4,753,974. Rate of increase over last season's packing 72 3-100 ₰ cent. Average increase in weight five pounds. Average yield of lard appears to have varied little from that of last year, though the aggregate yield will no greater. The following table gives the number packed at the principal packing points to date, with the total last season:

	1873.	1872.
Chicago	1,250,000	1,222,278
Cincinnati	590,000	658,881
St. Louis	525,000	419,000
Louisville	310,000	309,512
Milwaukee	240,425	315,000

The number packed last year at points not yet heard from this year was 124,592. The same rates of increase show at other points, and will add to this number 8,000, making 133,592, which will swell the total estimated packing for the season to 5,355,-592, against 4,878,163 last year.

CINCINNATI, O., February 8.—Hogs slaughtered here since November 1st, 698,811.

PRODUCE AND GENERAL MARKETS.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, WEDNESDAY, February 12, 1873.

REMARKS.—Snow has fallen all afternoon, and continues at this writing, six o'clock in the evening. The weather is warm, with strong indications of rain, which, in that event, will cause a rise in the rivers. The "sale mumble" mentioned yesterday has not yet been settled, but it is thought the trouble will be adjusted to-day. In the meantime the market for that class of ale usually sold at retail is in a fearfully demoralized state, parties advertising to sell at $6 ₰ bbl. This is certainly a low figure, and if it would "keep," now would be the time to lay in a stock. There are those who intimate that the Local option law, soon to be voted upon, has something to do with the turmoil in prices, brewers being desirous of closing out stocks ere the ides of March. The market shows little change in prices. Trade is reported on the increase. Dealers are fully stocked and ready to fill all orders that may be given them, at low rates and on the most liberal terms.

The following are the receipts of the leading articles of produce reported during the past two weeks:

	Last week.	This week.	Total.
Flour, bbls	6,105	7,092	13,197
Apples, barrels	1,743	1,694	3,448
Cheese, boxes	262	271	533
Corn, sacks	5,704	3,083	8,577
Wheat, sacks	6,248	1,171	7,419
Barley, sacks	1,591	3,260	10,561
Rye, sacks	1,280	309	1,579
Oats, sacks	7,878	12,107	19,985
Butter, packages	305	216	521
Bacon, pieces	11,150	8,558	19,658
Bacon, tierces	194	222	416

Below will be found the rulings of the market, the rates quoted being wholesale, unless special mention is made to the contrary:

ALES.—The market is in a demoralized state and quotations cannot be given, especially for X and XX ales, which have declined from $9 00a $10 00 ₰ bbl to $6 00a6 50. India ale is still held at $11: Porter $10.

ASHES.—Soda ash, common, favorite brands for window glass use, at 4¼@4½c; refined, for flint glass makers' use, 5½@6c; pots, 9½@9½c; pearls, 11c; arsenic, 3½@3¾c; nitrate soda, 4¼@5c; black lead, 6c.

APPLE BUTTER.—Sales at 50@60c per gallon as to quality.

APPLES.—Market dull. We quote at $1 90@2 50 ₰ per bbl., as to quality. Receipts 175 bbls.

BEANS.—Prices are firm. We quote choice roll, at table for family use, at $2 50@2 75 per ₰; medium to good, $2@2 50; common $1@1 50.

BRANS.—White navy $2 50@2 75 ₰ bbl.

BROOM-WAX.—Market quiet and firm, with small sales at 35c@37½c ₰ lb.

BAKING POWDER.—Banner Baking Powder, 1 lb. tins, ₰ dozen, $6 00; ½ lb cans $3 25; ¼ lb cans $1 75.

BROOM CORN.—Sales at 4½@6c, as to quality and condition.

CHEESE.—Receipts light and prices unchanged. New York factory, 15½c; Ohio factory, 14½c; Dairy 12@13½c; Ohio Factory, round lots, 13½c; jobbing lots 14@14½c.

CANDLES.—Hazlett's and Carer's berries $14 a15 ₰ bbl; cultivated and common 9½@11½.

CANDY.—Market plenty and dull at 10c per ₰. Beeson's hydraulic cement $2 00@2 25; Louisville $2 50@2 75; Rosendale $1 00@2 25.

CANNED GOODS.—Standard goods, our lots 17½@ 18c, with the usual advance from stores.

CRACKERS.—Market quiet at $8 @9 per ₰.

COUNTRY MEATS.—Hams 8@; clear sides 6½@6¾; sugar cured 8½@8¾c. Lard 8@7¾c ₰ lb. Market dull.

DRIED FRUITS.—Sales of peaches, halves, 7½@8c; quarters and chopped 5@5½c.

DRESSED HOGS.—Demand light at 5¾@5¾ ₰ lb.

EGGS.—Fresh may be quoted at 33c@35; packed 28@ 30c. Receipts 2,052 bbls. Market dull and prices nominally unchanged. See notice.

FEATHERS.—Market quiet and unchanged at $2 25 ₰ lb.

FISH.—Mackerel—Shore, $6 50@7 00; Bay, $5 50@ 6 00; No. 1 Bay, $5 00@5 50; No. 2 Bay, $4 00@4 50; No. 3 Bay, $3 50@4 00; Salmon, $18 00@20 00; Trout, $6 00@7 00; Codfish, 6½@7½c; Herring, $5 00@5 50 ₰ bbl; Pickerel, $5 50@6 00; White Fish, $5 50@6 00; Lake Herring, $4 50@5 00; Holland Herring, $1 50@1 75 ₰ keg; Anchovies, 15@18c ₰ box.

FRUITS.—Oranges—Messina, $4 50@5 00; Mediterranean Sweets, $4 50@5 00; Florida, $5 00@6 00; Lemons, $5 00@6 00 ₰ box; Bananas, $1 50@2 00 ₰ bunch; Pineapples, $4 00@5 00 ₰ doz; Cocoanuts, $6 00@7 00 ₰ 100; Malaga Grapes, $6 00@7 00 ₰ keg; Figs, 15@18c ₰ lb; Dates, 10@12½c ₰ lb; Prunes, 10@12½c ₰ lb; Citron, 30@35c ₰ lb; Currants, 8@9c ₰ lb; Raisins, $2 50@3 00 ₰ box.

GRAIN.—The receipts of wheat, barley, corn and rye at the Grain Elevator on Tuesday were as follows:

Wheat, bushels	726	Corn, bushels	2,019
Barley, bushels	3,212	Oats, bushels	4,885

Received by river and rail, in sacks, for the same time:

Oats, sacks	1,755	Corn, sacks	211
Barley, sacks	955		

The market shows some signs of weakness, though so far as wheat is concerned, prices are unchanged. We quote: Wheat, No 1 spring, $1 40; No 2 do $1 37; No 3 do $1 08; rejected, 96c. Corn quiet and unchanged; No 2 yellow, 41c, cash; 31½c seller May; 36½c seller May; rejected 37c. Oats firm with a moderate demand; No 2, 26½@27c; rejected 23½@23½c. Rye steady with a moderate demand; No 2, 65c. Barley dull and nominal at $1 25@1 30 ₰ bush. Flaxseed, $1 60@1 65.

HAY.—Market inactive, with sales baled on track at $ 8 ton as to quality.

HONEY.—Small sales at 35@40c ₰ lb.

HOMINY.—Sales at $5 25@5 75 ₰ bbl.

HOPS.—Market active at 55@60c for 1873s; 1870 not wanted.

LARD.—Iceland white $2 ₰ lb; Eastern $1 75.

LARD OIL.—Sales at 70@72; bonding lots, 72@73c ₰ gallon.

MILL FEED.—We quote bran at 90@95c ₰ cwt.; middlings $1 10@1 25.

MINCE MEAT.—Choice brands 12c ₰ lb.

ONIONS.—Yellow Dutch, red $4 bu@5 00. The stocks are light and prices active.

OYSTERS.—Sales in a jobbing way at 55@65c ₰ gallon.

PEAS.—Sales at 3½@3¾ ₰ lb.

SALT.—Sales at Ohio No 1 at $1 65 ₰ bbl; No 2 $1 45.

SEEDS.—Demand fair at $6 00 ₰ case of 6 doz each.

SUGAR.—Cover seed $5 50@6 00; timothy seed $4 00 @5 00; flaxseed $1 90@1 95 ₰ bush.

TALLOW.—Sales at 7½@8c ₰ lb.

WHISKY.—Highwines 93c ₰ gal.

PITTSBURGH OIL TRADE.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, THURSDAY, February 13, 1873.

REMARKS.—The crude market was still very inactive and nothing has occurred to change the feeling that there was no demand. At Parker's some 8,000 to 9,000 bbls changed hands at various prices, ranging from $2 25 down to $2 10 per barrel. In our market holders were asking $2 30 per gallon. For prices at other points see our dispatches.

REFINED.

We have no change to note as relates to prices or demands. The asking rates are: Car load lots at 24½c ₰ gal; for 600 to 1,000 bbls, and upwards 26a26½c per gallon.

[By Western Union Tel-graph Line.]

TITUSVILLE, February 12.—*The Herald says:* The market is unchanged, with intervals of strength at particular points during the day. Upper road was uneven and prices irregular, ranging from $2 25¼ to $2 27. Lower road was quiet and unchanged at $2 25. Sales:

2,000 bbls upper creek, T. P.	$2 25¾	1,000 bbls Parker's, spot	$2 20
1,000 bbls upper creek, T. P.	2 25	1,000 bbls Parker's, spot	2 20
500 bbls upper creek, T. P.	2 27½	1,000 bbls Parker's, spot	2 20
1,000 bbls upper creek, P. T.	2 27½	1,000 bbls Parker's, spot	2 20
2 cars upper creek, P. T.	2 27½	500 bbls Parker's, spot	2 20
500 bbls upper creek, P. T.	2 28	500 bbls Parker's, spot	2 20
500 bbls upper creek, P. T.	2 28½	500 bbls Parker's, spot	2 20
500 bbls lower creek, spot	2 25	2,000 bbls Parker's, spot	2 20
1,000 bbls Oil City, spot	2 25	1,000 bbls Parker's, spot	2 20
3,000 bbls Oil City, spot	2 25	1,000 bbls Parker's, spot	2 20
250 bbls Oil City, spot	2 25	1,000 bbls Parker's, spot	2 20
500 bbls Parker's, spot	2 20	1,000 bbls Parker's, spot	2 20
1,000 bbls Parker's, spot	2 20	2,000 bbls Parker's, spot	2 20
1,000 bbls Parker's, spot	2 20	2,000 bbls Parker's, spot	2 20
500 bbls Parker's, spot	2 20	2,000 bbls Parker's, spot	2 20
2,000 bbls Parker's, spot	2 20	2,000 bbls Tidioute, spot	2 12½

NEW YORK, February 13, closing 11.—Small inquiry for crude in bulk at 9c; a few light sales reported at this price. Refined steadily held at 29c, with a moderate inquiry from shippers at this price; sales 8,500 bbls at private terms. Pulled naphtha delivery very quiet and firm at 19¼a19½c for refined.

ROUSEVILLE, February 12.—Market quiet and unchanged at $2 25

OIL CITY, February 12.—Market dull at $2 40@2 45; upper road $2 20; lower road $2 20.

PETROLEUM CENTER, February 12.—Market dull at $2 25.

TITUSVILLE, February 12.—Market quiet, dull and unchanged at $2 25 bid, with no sales.

PARKERSBURG, February 12.—Market quiet; S. W. 19½c; crude 8½c; cases 25½@26c; sales 3,500 bbls at 24½c; futures: April to June, 24c.

[By Pacific and Atlantic Telegraph Line.]

OIL CITY, February 12.—Market quiet and firm at $2 40.

NEW YORK, February 12.—Crude 9c; refined 19½c.

TITUSVILLE, February 12.—Market very quiet and he feeling weak; crude quote at $2 17½@2 25.

FOXBURG, February 12.—Market dull at $2 15.

TIDIOUTE, February 12.—Market firm at $2 15.

PHILADELPHIA, February 12.—Refined 19½a20c; crude 8½c in bulk; in bbls 14½c.

HOLMES, LAFFERTY & CO. SOLD

	Weight.	Price.	No.	Weight.	Price.
12	12,500	$ 6 70	37	37,380	$ 5 75
13	14,800	5 50	152	15,370	6 65
197	7,510	5 50	89	7,800	6 60

HAYDEN, HARMES & CO. SOLD

175	17,600	$6 80	90	7,978	$7 70
150	15,220	6 00	145	15,100	6 25
79	7,950	6 00	68	6,800	5 75
79	7,900	5 90	90	8,940	5 80
190	19,250	7 80	71	6,870	5 75
162	14,660	7 80			

ALLEGHENY LIVE STOCK MARKET.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, MONDAY, February 10, 1873.

Cattle.

The receipts of cattle this week are a little heavy, or in other words, there is more than an ordinary run. What makes the run seemingly more heavy is that fact that up till this time but few cattle have been shipped out, and receipts are accumulating here. At the close of our last weekly report we stated that the market was exceedingly bad, and from appearance would close at the end of the week even worse. Such turned out to be the case. On Friday the reports from New York were unfavorable for trade, and buyers left the yards declining to purchase any more. The feeling on Friday afternoon and Saturday was bad, and there was considerable stock shipped out on first trains, while the following day we were taken to Allegheny for retail. Hazelwood & Blackstock, 2 cars; Sadler, Havens & Co,2 do. Needy 2 cars; S. Lowenstein, 1 car. This week the attendance of buyers is fair, but they are all disposed to be bearish. The quality of cattle on sale is generally common, and with more of this kind than there is demand, and the markets East all bad for lower grades of stock, it can at once be seen that a fair trade here is impossible. Dealers all agree that the market is even worse than last week; some of them place it at ½c and some ½c, but all admit a decline. On good to prime cattle the feeling is not so bad. Of course prices are not quite so high, but here is a more ready sale for this grade of cattle. They are not coming in droves large enough to glut the market, and while this state of affairs continues hey will sell more readily than common, and for better prices relatively. Till noon Wednesday very few cattle had been sold. Buyers all complained of losing money last week, notwithstanding they purchased their cattle very cheap. Many fear to attend the same figures as they cost in the country. The outlook for the balance of the week is bad. To day buyers who intend purchasing will do so in order to get shipped out on time, and from the look of things we think sellers will have to give a further concession if they want to close out their stock. Following are the sales reported:

EXTRA 1,000 3s steers, fine and smooth, $5; extra 940 3s steers, fine and smooth, $5 50@5 75; extra 1,360 3s steers, fine and smooth, $6 00 to $6 25; prime 1,200 3s steers, fine and smooth, $5 25 to $5 75; fair 1,100 3s steers, fine and smooth, $5; fair 1,000 3s steers, fine and smooth, $4 25 to $4 75.

The receipts of hogs this week to this time have been light. The market on Monday, under the influence of light receipts and favorable advices, advanced about 10c per hundred over Saturday's rates, ranging from $4 20 to $4 25, and prices for prime to extra Philadelphia advanced about 10c per hundred over Monday's rates, ranging from $4 30 to $4 40. The good hogs is not equal to the demand, while there is a run of Yorkers sufficient to meet the wants of buyers. To day the buyers of York hogs were rather off, saying but little stock on sale. Arrival of a heavy run of hogs from Buffalo, sixty cars leaving that point on Monday for New York. The heavy run caused buyers here to be cautious, and as above noted the market yesterday ruled dull and slow, without any change in prices. The prospect at this writing is that the heavy snow will prevent the driving of hogs for shipment, and it would not surprise us to see the prices advanced toward the close of the week. Following are the rates current: Extra Philas at $5 prime do $5 30 to $5 35; prime Yorkers $4 80 to $4 90.

Sheep.

The run of sheep this week but fair, though it is greater than the demand. Philadelphia markets are the only ones quoting buyers for New York this week being out of the field. With no opposition the buyers for Philadelphia are taking things cozily and are not disposed to advance the rates any. The sale of one clip sheep on Monday was at full prices, sheep are selling better, still the trade is far from satisfactory, and dealers generally report a drag. At this writing the feeling is not good, and it looks as if some stock would have to be carried over on first hands. Following are the rates current:

Extra 100 lbs, fine wool, $6 50; extra 95 lbs, fine wool, $6 00 to $6 25; extra 90 lbs, fine wool, $5 50 to $5 75; extra 90 lbs, fine wool, $5 50; prime 80 lbs, fine wool, $5 00 to $5 25.

Horses and Mules.

The receipts and shipments of horses and mules during the past week have been the heaviest for a long time, most of the horses are going through to New York and Philadelphia, for street car purposes. There are very few horses selling at this point; but, judging by the quantity of stock passing through, there must be a good demand for horses East.

Cattle.

HOLMES, LAFFERTY & CO. SOLD

	Weight.	Price.	No.	Weight.	Price.
1	1,200	$3 50	2	1,210	$4 00
9	9,000	4 00	2	1,940	4 00
8	4,400	4 25	7	6,000	4 00
9	9,000	4 00	1	1,000	4 00
4	4,830	4 00	1	1,080	4 00
5	5,000	4

Weekly Commercial.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 1873.

THE New Hampshire campaign is assuming quite a lively aspect. The election takes place on the 11th of March. There are three tickets in the field—Republican, Democratic and Prohibition—although it is not likely that the latter will carry votes enough to prevent one of the two great parties from securing an actual majority. The Republicans are quite confident of maintaining the ascendency secured last year, and what is better, they are trying to deserve victory by faithfully working for it.

ACCORDING to a report the other day submitted by Secretary BOUTWELL to General GARFIELD, Chairman of the House Committee on Appropriations, the actual cost of running the government during the fiscal year ending June 30th, 1872, was $250,481,844 56. The account is thus itemized: Legislative, $4,675,975 67; Executive proper $60,941 64; State, $2,241,433 20; Treasury, $146,514,354 65; War, $35,904,608 63; Navy, $21,292,453 96; Interior, $30,154,600 99; Postoffice, $5,643,719 91; Agricultural, $191,362 91; Department of Justice, $226,006 00; Judiciary, $5,576,386 90, making the total given above.

FROM his place in the United States Senate Mr. POMEROY denies *in toto* the statements of YORK concerning his alleged attempt at bribery, and demands an immediate investigation into the case. The character of the committee appointed to conduct it would seem to indicate that the inquiry is to be made as impartial and exhaustive as possible. Now let there be a suspension of judgment until all the facts of the case are got at. The downfall of honor and the ruin of character are always inexpressibly sad. If Senator POMEROY can satisfactorily unravel the network of painful evidence that encircles him, every right minded man will rejoice. If he is guilty he will have brought upon him his own fate.

SCHEMES for the plunder of the public treasury always thicken and ripen as the sessions of Congress draw toward their close, and hence the necessity for the exercise of correspondingly increased vigilance and firmness on the part of every faithful representative of the people. Appearances indicate that the formidable combination of sewing machine patent interests, to whose selfish intrigues we have so often before referred, purpose soon to make another desperate attempt to lobby their extension through that body. This ring is one of the most compact, powerful and unscrupulous corporations in the world, and deserves no consideration from Congress. For years the people have paid from fifty to eighty dollars for machines which, sold at less than half that sum, would still leave a very handsome profit. We call upon Congress to rebuke the effrontery as it deserves.

A COUPLE of judicial decisions of considerable importance to the public were delivered in New York the other day. One of them involved a question as to the extent of a claim against a bankrupt's estate by a creditor who held a life insurance policy as a collateral security for a debt due him by the bankrupt, the bankrupt having taken out the policy in his own name for the benefit of the creditor; the Court holding that where a debtor, at his own expense, effects an insurance on his life as security to a creditor, the insurance money of the debtor is entitled to the surplus after the debt is paid. In the other case the point at issue was whether the action of a general agent of an insurance company in granting an extension of policy which had lapsed, was binding upon the company. The Court held that it was not, but that if made only a day before, it was binding, and kept the policy alive.

CONNECTICUT is a close State, and the Democracy are said to entertain strong hopes of turning the scales in their favor at the approaching Gubernatorial election. The Republicans, last week, nominated as their candidate Hon. HENRY P. HAVEN, a selection which is admitted by the Democratic press to be "as good as can be desired by the party." The Democratic Nominating Convention meets on Wednesday of next week. It is to be hoped the rumors which reach us of a threatened "bolt" on the part of a portion of the Republican party who desired a different nomination, may turn out to be groundless. Success can only be had in harmony and co-operation, and while there is no room for apprehension, if the full vote of the party is polled, our friends cannot afford to indulge in local divisions and private feuds. Shoulder to shoulder is the word. The Republican majority ought to be increased rather than diminished. With the ascendancy of the Republican party firmly established, the latent enterprise and energy of our people will expand, the heat of our political struggles will abate, and merit will take the place of partisan activity, and magnanimity the place of party exclusiveness. These are the things for which the Republicans of Connecticut are called upon to strive. They can win if they will.

A FRENCH paper, the *Gaulois*, gives the following account of the arrival of the ex-Prince Imperial at Chiselhurst on the occasion of his father's death:

"When the young Prince arrived at Chiselhurst, he cried out 'My father!' and rushed from the carriage. Count Davillers took him by the hands. 'Monseigneur,' said the Count, 'you must have courage. Remember you are the son of the hero.' At this moment the Prince caught sight of the *curé* of Chiselhurst, he grew frightfully pale and staggered; he then stiffened himself up against the first effects of grief; his look became fixed; he was frightful to behold. 'Prévoyez moi tout,' he said in a changed voice, 'I am strong enough to bear it.' Sobs were the only reponse. At length the Empress, weeping and pressing him close, was able to say, 'My son—my child—Louis, my poor child, I have now only you.' Not a tear escaped from the eyes of the Prince, who without uttering a word rushed into the chamber of his father, where he threw himself on his knees and recited the Lord's prayer in Latin. When both the prayer was ended, completely overpowered with grief he fell, exclaiming, 'I cannot bear it—I cannot bear it.' Only after hearing the painful recital of Baron Corvisart and Doctor Conneau, his nerves became relaxed, and he was able to shed copious tears."

Whatever judgment may be passed upon LOUIS NAPOLEON'S public character, there can be no doubt about the affection and respect with which he was regarded by many of those who knew him most intimately, and especially by his own family. The world at least the world outside of France, can now afford to allow the dead Emperor whatever merits he can be proved to have possessed. Even in France eminent men who abhorred his political principles and his mode of government, do not all think it necessary or becoming to withhold recognition from his good qualities, and M. GUIZOT has lately said that so far as he had opportunity of personally knowing him, "LOUIS NAPOLEON was always a gentleman."

GRAZING VERSUS FARMING IN TEXAS.

A late number of the *Freie Presse*, a German paper of San Antonio, contains an interesting article on the future of Western Texas. Some of its statements are likely to interest readers who are accustomed to think of the Texan cattle trade as the important or even chief concern of the people who live in that remote and heretofore secluded section of our great Union. Remarking that there are three things which make a country prosperous and great, viz: agriculture, manufactures and trade, the writer affirms that of all regions those are the poorest and least advanced in civilization, which are exclusively devoted to the raising of cattle for the market. Such in Europe are the lands on the lower Danube, on the Moldau, and the Theiss, and in Southern Russia. In those countries neither agriculture nor manufactures flourish. In North America Texas and especially Western Texas is the home of cattle raising, and all other interests are subordinated to the business. The cattle-raiser is in fact the lord of the land, for valley and hill, forest and prairie belong to him. The farmer in order to protect his crops against his neighbor's ox, worth perhaps fifteen dollars, must expend five hundred dollars or more in fencing. On your neighbor's land everything is sacred from invasion except the grass—that belongs to the ox. A miserable calf may break into your field or garden and in a single night destroy the fruit of years of toil, but you have no remedy, because your fence has not the legal height of eleven feet. The scarcity of timber in Western Texas is urged in vain, as the right of the cattle overrides every other. A wooden fortification around your property is the only resource.

The all prevalent defense of this state of things is, it seems, that the riches of Texas consist in its cattle, and that every year hundreds of thousands of dollars are paid out in the West exclusively for them. To meet this argument the *Freie Presse* turns to the census of 1870, and compares the cattle interest with the agricultural interest, for the purpose of showing the superiority of the latter. From the census report it is shown that the value of the cattle running at large in Texas, at a liberal valuation, does not amount to more than about twenty millions of dollars, while the values of the farms, farming implements and farm products together amount to as much as a hundred and thirty-five millions. Then the annual money product of the cattle, *in the absence of records and assuming the most to be made of them*, would not be much more than six and a half millions of dollars, while the annual money product of the farms is *somewhat* more than forty-one millions. In reality four millions of dollars are the full annual outcome from the cattle. It must also be considered that at present a considerable portion of the farmer's time—so much productive energy—is spent upon fencing. And yet, in spite of the great disparity of the two interests, the cattle interest and the agricultural interest, the former is allowed to have the upper hand, and the farmer is compelled to fence his fields that the cattle may have the privilege of rambling where they please—a state of things which is simply the tyranny of the less worthy over those who contribute most largely to the wealth and prosperity of the commonwealth. So thinks the *Freie Presse*, which seems to make out a rather strong case against fences. Perhaps the grazier could point out a flaw in the reasoning.

THE better portion of the people of Chicago are endeavoring to procure an amendment to the city charter, making it a penal offense for any person to give a false name when arrested and taken to the station house. It has recently been ascertained that numbers of clerks and other young persons who have fallen under arrest for frequenting gambling houses and other disreputable places of resort, have uniformly given false names, so that their parents and friends were ignorant of their disgrace. It is argued that if all arrested persons were compelled to give their real names, the respectable people of the city, the fathers and mothers and friends of thoughtless youth, would be made aware of the first steps that were being taken in the road to ruin, and thus perhaps, be enabled to prevent further progress in evil courses. It seems a good idea. There are hundreds of giddy youth in all large cities who, not naturally depraved, are being slowly but surely sucked downward by their present immunity from exposure, arising from the practice of giving false names whenever arrested. Remonstrance and exhortation might save many of these, if their cloaks and disguises were stripped off in the beginning of their lapses from honorable ways. We are not sure but that a somewhat similar reform is needed near our own doors.

AFTER a protracted contest between the advocates and opponents of the measure, the city of Boston has decided to open the reading room of its Public Library on Sundays. Persons of both sexes, with a bent for reading, who labor from early morn till late at night, will now have an opportunity to realize some of the advantages of that excellent institution. Wherever the experiment has been tried, it has been followed by good results. In Worcester, New York, Philadelphia and Cincinnati, established facts show that the innovation attracts not only that class whose daily pursuits during the week exclude them from mental instruction and improvement, but also such as, from lack of other resources, form the aimless floating population of holidays, either sacred or secular, drifting inevitably from indifference into sin, and from absence of occupation into crime. Whatever proves itself a successful rival of the grosser amusements is an auxiliary of morality and virtue.

THE number of volumes in the principal public libraries of New York and Brooklyn are estimated by the *World* as follows: Astor, 152,000; Mercantile, 140,000; Society, 60,000; Apprentices, 45,000; Brooklyn Mercantile, 44,500, Historical, 30,000; Long Island Historical, 20,000; City, 10,000; American Institute, 7,000; Cooper Union, 5,000; Mineralogical, 3,000; Miscellaneous, 30,000; total, about 544,500. This does not include Mr. James Lenox's munificent gift of his library, coupled with $100,000 in cash and real estate near Central Park, upon which to erect suitable buildings.

THAT sterling Republican journal, the Cincinnati *Gazette*, has doubled itself up. In other words it has adopted the stereotyping process and the eight page form.

GENERAL AND PARTICULAR.

The lumbermen of Embden, Maine, are blessing the beavers for damming the forest streams years and years ago. Logs in great numbers are coming to the surface in ponds produced by these industrious quadrupeds, which are perfectly sound and good, and which were brought down by the overflowing waters in which they have been preserved these many years.

A crab was taken lately at Galveston, enclosed within an unusual sort of shell, being a coffee bean into which he had entered without being able to extricate himself.

The United States Consul at Rotterdam, has sent to the Department of State twenty-five sets of sugar samples of the year 1872, which will be furnished to Collectors of Customs to determine the proper classification of imported sugars.

A New York restaurateur, having got two small fishes of rare appearance from the market, sent them to Prof. Agassiz the other day, and received the great scholar's hearty thanks, with the assurance that the fish were of a very rare species and a valuable acquisition for his museum. It had been seen by only one American scientist before.

The tunnel on the Albany and Susquehanna Railroad distant fifteen miles from Binghamton, has at last been completed. This tunnel was commenced twenty years ago, but the archway was not finished until now.

Iowa papers estimate that in that State 50,000 bushels of corn per day are burned, and at this rate will continue for the next two months.

A wealthy and prominent citizen of Worcester, Mass., has purchased between one thousand five hundred and one thousand eight hundred acres of land in Nantucket, intending to make it the greatest watering place in the world.

From the recent census in India it appears that the people owning the direct authority of the Queen of Great Britain number 30,000,000, and those who obey the rule of native chiefs, subject to her protection, number 55,250,000.

Hundreds of petitions are reaching the United States Senate from the publishers of country newspapers protesting against a provision in the bill now before the House for the reduction of rates of postage, providing for transmitting through the mails free of postage weekly papers which are printed and published wholly within the county.

The directors of the Anglo-American and French Atlantic Cable Companies have resolved to reduce the tariff on messages between Great Britain, France and New York, from one dollar per word to seventy-five cents per word on and after the 1st of May next.

It appears by the accounts of the Pacific Railroad, that they know how to make the bills against the government cover as large a ground as possible. When any part of the road is threatened by hostile Indians, they telegraph to the nearest military post, get a lot of soldiers, carry them to the point of alleged danger and back. The result is a goodly-proportioned bill against the government for transportation of troops and supplies.

Here's richness! The wicked Sardou has agreed to modify his satirical play of "Uncle Sam," by substituting "John Bull" and "English" for "American" all the way through. The London papers want to know what M. Thiers is going to do about it!

On the fifth of March the Canadian Parliament will meet at Ottawa. This will be the first session of the Second Dominion Parliament, elected, last summer, for five years. The First Dominion Parliament was elected in 1867, and finally prorogued June 14, 1872.

The convention of free-thinkers held in Boston last year, which raised about $10,000 for the erection in Boston of a hall sacred to free speech and beyond the control of sects, has undoubtedly, has recently received from Mr. James Lick, of San Jose, Cal., a grist-mill and land in San Jose worth $100,000.

Federal officials have seized the books, weights and measures of the San Francisco and Pacific, and the California sugar refineries in San Francisco, on the charge of making false returns of weights.

The Massachusetts Senate is considering a bill designed to recover the loss of taxable property which the city of Boston annually suffers from persons having little real estate in Boston and a large amount of personal property going to some suburban town about the first of May, and claiming that as their residence for the purposes of taxation.

Northern Texas is now actively engaged in raising cattle, and men who, a few years ago, could barely earn a subsistence, are now the owners of large "stocks," notwithstanding great losses by cattle thieves and Indian depredators.

The lumber trade of Canada for 1872 was not profitable in consequence of labor and provisions having risen from twenty-five to thirty-three per cent, and although the cut of logs in the winter was very large, yet in consequence of the continued dry weather and low water during the summer, it was impossible to send down the logs.

The Latest Idea in Iron Plating.

If Mr. J. Callis Browne, of the Royal Cinque Ports Yacht Club, is right, the struggle for supremacy between cannon and iron plating is virtually at an end. That ingenious gentleman contends that vessels of ordinary size can be constructed to carry iron armor three feet in thickness, and that, in addition, these craft will ride smoothly on the sea, carry no sayes before them, and be made, at rapidity, with remarkable steadiness and stanchness. All these advantages are to be gained by a new form of hull, and, to show how the thing may be done, Mr. Browne has constructed and enrolled in the club above mentioned, of which Prince Arthur is Commodore, a schooner of eighty tons on the new model. No trial of its qualities has yet been made, but the builder is so absolutely confident of success that the British public, with a few exceptions, look upon the matter as already accomplished. The vessel is to be tested some time this month, and then "we shall see what we shall see."

OBITUARY.

Ex-Governor John W. Geary.

This community was startled, on Saturday morning, by the announcement, by telegrams from Harrisburg, of the sudden death of the Hon. John W. Geary, who had a fortnight before finished his second term as Governor of this Commonwealth, and had just returned to the State Capital from New York, whither he had gone on a visit. He was in his usual health, and while seated at the breakfast table, with his family, was stricken and expired in a few moments.

Governor Geary was born in Westmoreland county, Pennsylvania, in 1822, of Scotch-Irish parents, his father having been a native of this State and his mother of Maryland. His father pursued the avocation of a teacher, and was not successful in the accumulation of property. At his death the support of his family partially devolved upon his son, who taught school for a time, and subsequently removed to this city and was employed for a time as clerk in a mercantile house. Having accumulated some means, he entered Jefferson College, mainly with a view of qualifying himself for the duties of a civil engineer. From his earliest years he exhibited tact, energy and self-reliance, qualities which characterized him in after life, and to which, in a great measure he owed his extraordinary success as a politician and a soldier. After he had practically engineering for some time, he was appointed Superintendent of Motive Power on the "Old Portage" road, and was stationed in Cambria county. He was thus engaged when war was declared against Mexico, in 1846. He was active in determining to take part in that war, and with this purpose in view raised a company of hardy mountaineers, which he called the "American Highlanders." Pennsylvania furnished two regiments for that war, and the Highlanders recruited by Captain Geary were attached to the Second Pennsylvania regiment, which organized by the election of Wm. B. Roberts, of Uniontown, as colonel, John W. Geary as Lieutenant Colonel, and Wm. Bigler as Major. Early in January, 1847, this regiment left Pittsburgh for New Orleans, the First having gone a few days before. The regiment joined the army of General Scott, at Vera Cruz, having been assigned to Quitman's division. He participated in all the battles and conflicts in and around the City of Mexico. Colonel Roberts, from failing health, was to til too command his regiment at Contreras and Garita de Belin, in which engagements Lieutenant Colonel Geary commanded, and handled his men with skill. After the capture of the City of Mexico, Colonel Roberts died, and Geary was elected to the colonelcy, returning with his regiment after nearly two years of arduous service, and with an excellent record as a soldier.

The "Rush to California" which followed the gold discoveries in that newly acquired territory, devolved new duties upon the government. A heterogeneous mass of adventurers had found their way thither, and it became necessary to govern them. In January, 1849, Col. Geary (having been in politics a Democrat) was appointed, by President Polk, Postmaster of San Francisco, with authority to establish mail routes, locate postoffices, appoint postmasters, and contract for the carrying on of the mails throughout the Territory. He left for his new field of duty, his company with his wife and child, and arrived at his destination early in April. While at Panama, waiting for a steamer, he organized a Masonic Lodge, and also a society of Odd Fellows, which was found of great service in after years in relieving the wants of the necessitous coming to and from the gold fields. He exhibited marked ability in the discharge of the important trusts committed to him by the government during the few months he was permitted to serve. On the accession of Gen. Taylor to the Presidency he was removed for political reasons. Gen. Riley, Military Governor of the Territory, soon after issued a proclamation for a convention to organize a Territorial government, and Col. Geary had taken so firm a hold upon the people, that, when the time came to fill the offices provided for in it, he was unanimously elected the First Alcalde of San Francisco. Another flattering mark of confidence soon followed, Governor Riley having appointed Colonel Geary Commissioner of Sacramento, and also for the District of San Francisco." These positions were of Mexican origin, the Alcalde being Sheriff, Probate Judge, etc., with the functions of a Mayor or police magistrate, the Judge of First Instance had a court, with civil and criminal jurisdiction, as well as admiralty powers. The manner in which Colonel Geary exercised these varied functions may be inferred from the fact that he was unanimously re-elected, and continued in the office of Alcalde until the new Constitution abolished them. In May, 1850, he was chosen the first Mayor of San Francisco, and controlled the dangerous element of that city with admirable ability. He took a leading part in the formation of the new Constitution for California, and being chairman of the Territorial Democratic Committee, aided materially in the election of John Bigler, the first Governor of California. He remained in that State, and Judge Farwell says a large part in the affairs of the country until 1856, when he was appointed Territorial Governor of Kansas, just at a time when the border struggles were precipitated between the free-State and pro-slavery elements, and when the Territory had been declared in a state of insurrection. One of Governor Geary's first acts was to interpose a force of United States troops against three Missouri regiments, which had entered upon the field of strife. He prevailed upon them to retire, a conflict was prevented, and in a few months he was able to report to Washington that order had been completely re-established. The murder of Haynes, almost in the presence of Governor Shannon, and the refusal of Judge Lecompte in turning the murderer loose, brought about the resignation of Governor Geary. The Governor had called for the removal of Lecompte, and this had been assented to by the President, had nominated his successor, but the Senate refused to confirm the nomination, and Governor Geary tendered his resignation and quitted the Territory.

It was not to be presumed that one who had taken so active and prominent a part in public affairs, and had won distinction as a soldier and statesman, would fail to respond to his country's call when the tocsin of civil war was sounded. Early in June, 1861, having obtained permission from President Lincoln to raise a regiment, he left his home and proceeded to Philadelphia, where he established a camp, and at his own expense raised and equipped the Twenty-eighth Regiment of Pennsylvania Volunteers, which was mustered into the service for three years, before the close of that month. It consisted of fifteen companies, numbering over fifteen hundred officers and men. Three of these companies were enlisted in the Allegheny county, and one in his own county, Westmoreland. He was chosen Colonel. From surplus recruits a battery was formed and attached to the regiment, its subsequently becoming the famous Knapp's Battery—Mr. Charles Knapp, of this city, having presented the company with four steel guns. Immediately following the disastrous battle of Bull Run (July 21st, 1861), Gen. Scott ordered Colonel Geary to proceed to Harper's Ferry and reinforce the army. He moved on the 27th, with ten companies, the other five not being ready, and from that date until the close of the war played an important part in military operations. His first battle was with the rebel Ashby, in which he received his first wound. His next achievement was the routing of Gen. Hill, at Leesburg. On the 25th of April, 1862, Col. Geary was commissioned a Brigadier General, and at the battle of Cedar Mountain, on the 9th of August following, he was wounded in the foot and arm, and was compelled to retire from the field. In consequence of these wounds he did not participate in the battle of Antietam, but reported on the 20th inches of snow, with his arm still in a sling, and was enthusiastically received. The command of the Second division of the Second corps devolved on Gen. Geary soon after, and the commission was sent to him on the field of battle of Chancellorsville, in May following, earned for him the highest commendations. His old regiment on the first day's fight, were ordered to lead a charge in face of a galling fire, and, being under a new commander, for the first time faltered. Geary, then commanding the division, witnessed their indecision, and springing from his horse, and brandishing his sword, cried out, "Men of the Twenty-eighth, follow your old commander!" At this the men rallied the men instantaneously, and they dashed forward and gallantly repulsed the enemy. At the memorable battle of Gettysburg, in July, 1863, Gen. Geary again distinguished himself, and when the battle ended and four thousand small arms were captured by the Second division, and twelve hundred dead lay in front of his lines.

In September, 1863, the corps to which General Geary's division was attached, was ordered to join the Army of the Cumberland, under Gen. Hooker, to aid in repairing the fearful disaster at Chickamauga. Geary's division was engaged in the important engagement in which General Geary took part in the West. This battle was fought and won by a portion of Geary's division (the Second), not numbering over fifteen hundred men, against a division of Longstreet's corps, six times as strong. This victory was highly important, as the subsistence of the army at Chattanooga depended upon it. Generals Grant, Hooker, Thomas, and others, rode upon the field after the battle, and personally congratulated Geary and his victorious troops. It was here that General Geary lost his son, a brave young officer of eighteen, a Captain in Knapp's battery, who fell, whilst sighting his gun, pierced by a rifle ball through the forehead.

In the following month, Geary's division was selected to storm the rebel stronghold on Lookout Mountain, which, after a terrible struggle, was successful. This was the famous "battle above the clouds." Then followed the battles of Pine Knob, Pine Hill, Lost Mountain, and Peach Tree Creek, terminating with the triumphant entry into Atlanta, September 2d, 1864. General Geary, in his official report, gives a striking summary of the "hundred days' fight" of this eventful campaign, terminating so brilliantly for the American arms.

The part which General Geary enacted in Sherman's famous "March to the Sea," was equally creditable. His command was the first to enter Savannah, after its evacuation; and in consideration of the services of his division in the capture of Fort Jackson, he was appointed Military Governor of Savannah. In January, 1865, having been promoted to a Major General, he started upon the "war path through the Carolinas," encountering and overcoming innumerable difficulties, until he reached Raleigh, in April, at which time Gen. Lee had surrendered, and the rebellion had been conquered. Peace soon followed, and the troops of the Twentieth corps, to which Geary's division was then attached, was marched, through Richmond, to Washington, and disbanded.

Governor Geary's experience in the Kansas-Nevada struggle caused a radical change in his political sentiments, and when the rebellion was precipitated he cut loose entirely from the Democratic party. He was prominent